XEROX

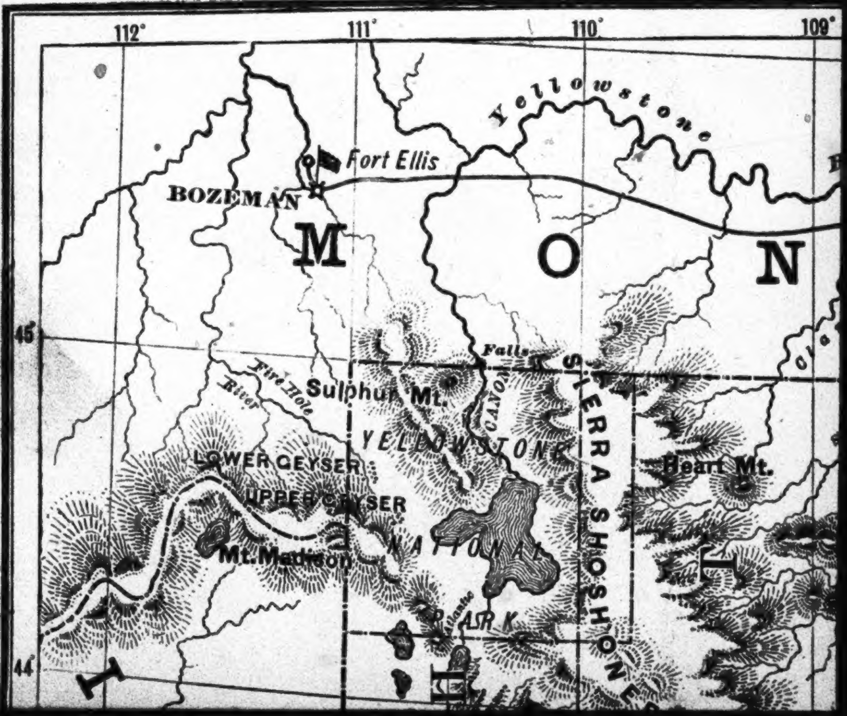
Xerox University Microfilms
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106

WESTERN AMERICANA

Reproduced from the original in the collection of
THE HENRY E. HUNTINGTON LIBRARY AND ART GALLERY

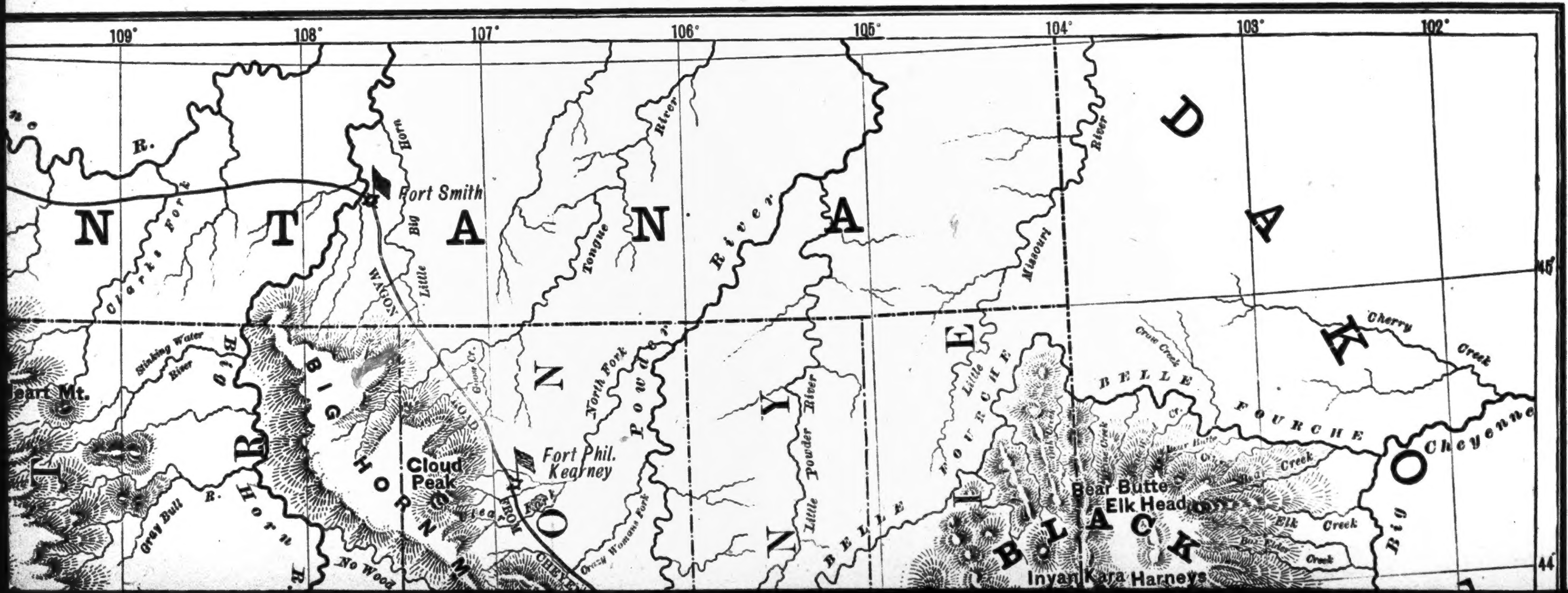
MAP

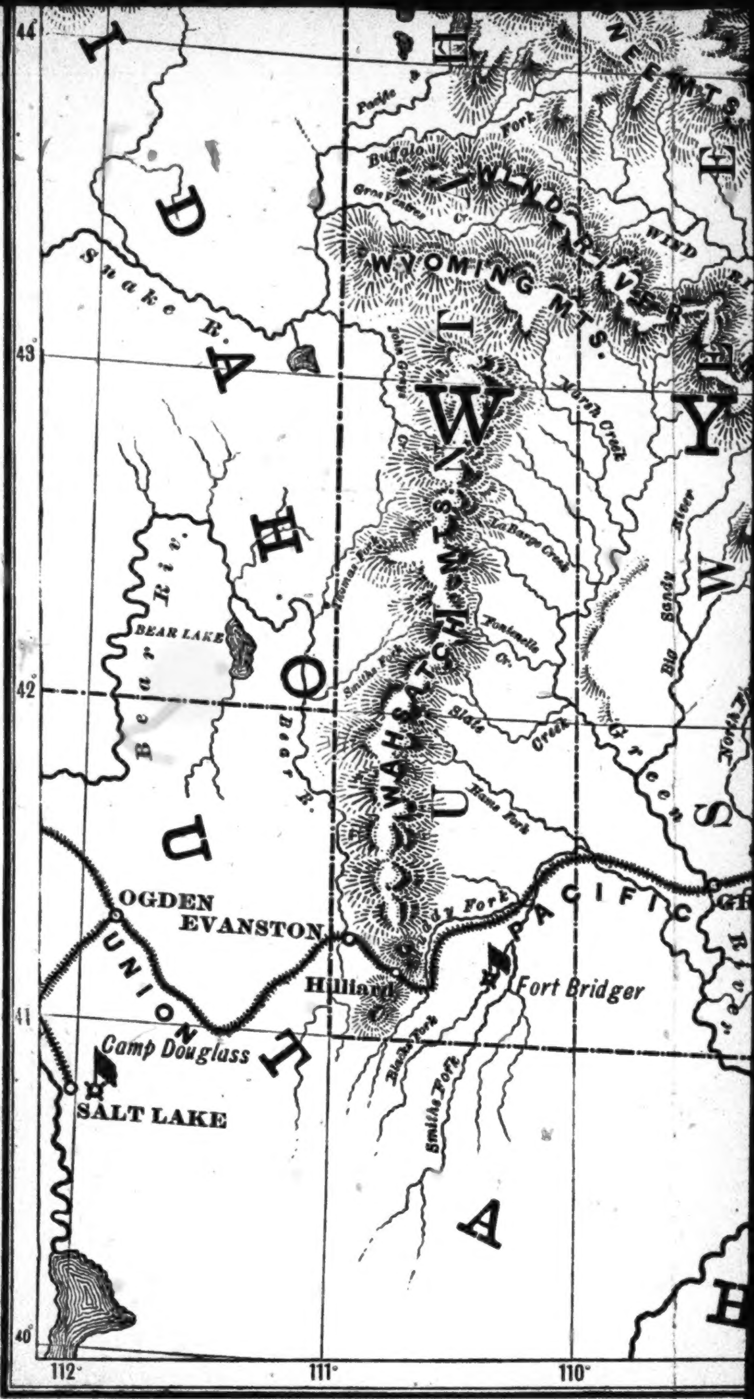
Drawn by W. M. Masi, Surveyor, etc., f

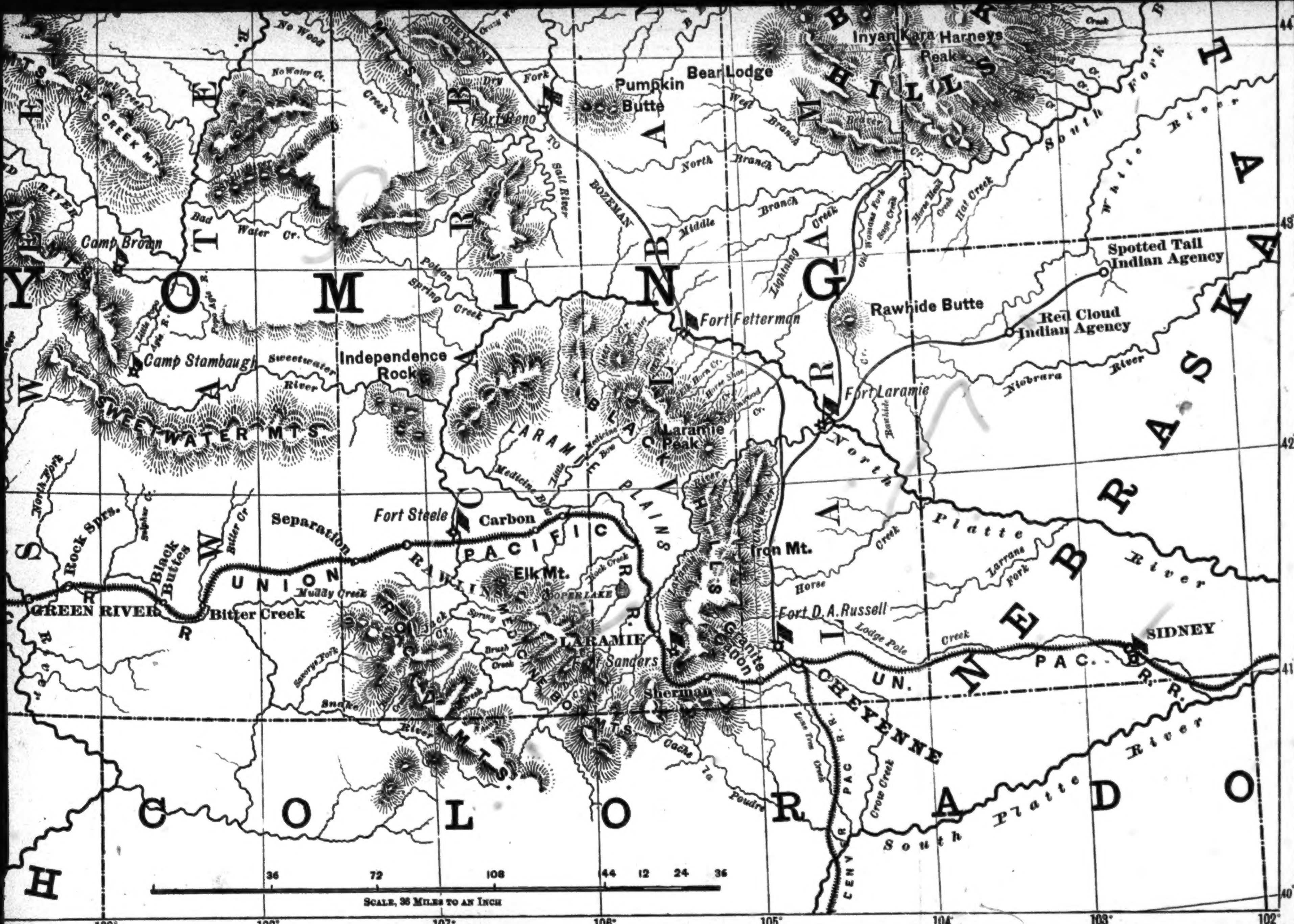

112°
111°
110°
109°
Yellowstone
Fort Ellis
BOZEMAN
M
O
N
45°
Falls
Fire Hole River
Sulphur Mt.
CANON
SIERRA SHOSHONE
YELLOWSTONE
NATIONAL
PARK
LOWER GEYSER
UPPER GEYSER
Mt. Madison
Heart Mt.
44°
I

AP OF WYOMING.

rveyor, etc., for J. H. Triggs' History of Cheyenne and Northern Wyoming. (See Masi's New Itinerary Map of Wyoming.)


109°
108°
107°
106°
105°
104°
103°
102°
45°
44
R.
Fort Smith
Horn
Big
Little
WAGON
ROAD
Clarks Fork
N T A N A
D A K O
Tongue
River
Powder
Missouri
Cherry
Creek
Crow Creek
BELLE
FOURCHE
Cr.
Sinking Water River
Big
Heart Mt.
BIG HORN
Cloud Peak
Fort Phil. Kearney
North Fork
Goose Cr.
Little Powder River
Little
Gray Bull R.
No Wood
Crazy Womans Fork
Bear Butte
Elk Head
Elk Creek
Creek
Big
Cheyenne
BLACK
Inyan Kara
Harneys


IDAHO
WYOMING
UTAH
WIND RIVER MTS.
WYOMING MTS.
WAHSATCH MTS.
Pacific Cr.
Buffalo Fork
Gros Ventre Cr.
Wind R.
Snake R.
John Grays Cr.
North Creek
La Barge Creek
Fontenelle Cr.
Smiths Fork
Slate Creek
Hams Fork
Big Sandy River
Green River
Bear Riv.
BEAR LAKE
Bear R.
Muddy Fork
UNION PACIFIC
OGDEN
EVANSTON
Hilliard
Fort Bridger
Camp Douglass
SALT LAKE
Blacks Fork
Smiths Fork
44°
43°
42°
41°
40°
112°
111°
110°


WYOMING
NEBRASKA
COLORADO
DAKOTA
UTAH
BLACK HILLS
Inyan Kara
Harneys Peak
Bear Lodge
Pumpkin Butte
Fort Reno
TO Salt River
BOZEMAN
No Wood
No Water Cr.
Bad Water Cr.
Poison Spring Creek
Camp Brown
Camp Stambaugh
Sweetwater River
SWEETWATER MTS
Independence Rock
OWL CREEK MTS
North Branch
Middle Branch
Lightning Creek
Old Woman's Fork
Hat Creek
South Fork
White River
Spotted Tail Indian Agency
Red Cloud Indian Agency
Rawhide Butte
Niobrara River
Fort Fetterman
Fort Laramie
LARAMIE PLAINS
Laramie Peak
Medicine Bow
Horse Shoe Cr.
North Platte River
Fort Steele
Carbon
Separation
UNION PACIFIC R.R.
Rock Sprs.
Black Buttes
Bitter Cr.
Bitter Creek
GREEN RIVER
Green River
North Fork
Muddy Creek
RAWLINS
Elk Mt.
Cooper Lake
Rock Creek
LARAMIE
Fort Sanders
Sherman
Granite Canon
Iron Mt.
Horse Creek
Fort D.A. Russell
Lodge Pole Creek
CHEYENNE
SIDNEY
UN. PAC. R.R.
Larrans Fork
Crow Creek
Lone Tree Creek
Cache la Poudre
DENVER PAC R.R.
South Platte River
PARK MTS
MEDICINE BOW MTS
Snake River
Savorys Fork
Jack Cr.
44°
43°
42°
41°
40°
109°
108°
107°
106°
105°
104°
103°
102°
36
72
108
144
12
24
36
Scale, 36 Miles to an Inch

Copyright secured according to Act of Congress, by J. H. Triggs, 1875.

HISTORY

OF

CHEYENNE

AND

NORTHERN WYOMING

EMBRACING THE

Gold Fields of the Black Hills,

POWDER RIVER AND BIG HORN COUNTRIES,

THE WONDERFUL COAL BEDS AND MOUNTAINS OF IRON, AS WELL AS
OTHER MINERAL RESOURCES, TOGETHER WITH THE AGRICULTURAL
AND GRAZING INTERESTS, CLIMATE, HEALTH, SCENERY, THE
GREAT YELLOW STONE NATIONAL PARK, INDIAN QUESTION, &c., &c., ACCOMPANIED BY A NEW AND CORRECT MAP OF WYOMING AND ITS BOUNDARIES.

BY J. H. TRIGGS.

OMAHA, NEB.
PRINTED AT THE HERALD STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINTING HOUSE
1876.

Entered according to Act of Congress, December, 1875,
BY J. H. TRIGGS,
In the office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington, D. C.

INTRODUCTION.

To the reading public of the United States:

We beg leave to call your particular attention, and ask a careful consideration of the contents of the following work, comprising a faithful history of the enterprising city of Cheyenne, from its first settlement to the present time, together with a full and correct history of the characteristics and resources of all portions of Wyoming Territory tributary thereto, including the already known and wonderfully rich and beautiful country lying north of here known as the Big Horn, Black Hills, Yellow Stone National Park, and all Northern Wyoming; also a full and correct map of the whole Territory.

ACROSTIC.

Cheyenne! Magic City, Queen of the Plain,
How bright are your hopes of greatness to gain,
Each son of your household, with energy gleams,
Yes, your spirit is known in national themes.
Enterprising you are; yet worthy and true,
No rival can charge unfairness to you.
Now go on in your glory, your influence spread,
Ever proud of the spirit of courage you shed.

J. H. TRIGGS.

INTER-OCEAN HOTEL,

Cor. of Hill and Sixteenth Streets,

CHEYENNE, W. T.

B. L. FORD, Proprietor.

Largest Hotel on the Line of the U. P. R. R. West of Omaha.

The house is new, with large and well ventilated rooms, all elegantly furnished.

All trains stop from thirty minutes to four hours, and everybody takes meals at the Inter-Ocean.

DYER'S HOTEL,

Restaurant Attached.

Meals at all Hours, Day and Night.

Eddy Street, between 16th and 17th,

T. DYER, Prop'r. CHEYENNE, W. T.

Table supplied with all the Delicacies of the Season. Free 'Bus' to and from all trains.

EAGLE HOUSE,

Cor. 17th and Thomes Sts.,

CHEYENNE, W. T.

A. SIMMONS, Proprietor.

Board by Day or Week. First class accommodations for transient boarders. The table is supplied with all the delicacies of the season. House open all night. Meals at all hours.

Terms: Per Day, $2; Week, $7 to $14.

Free Bus to and from all Trains.

PREFACE.

The Author having spent twelve years on the plains and in the Rocky Mountains, a brief sketch of his advantages and facilities for obtaining facts and statistics relative to this portion of the country, may not be uninteresting to the reader.

In June, 1863, he started from Davenport, Iowa, as Lieutenant and Regimental Quartermaster, and Commissary of Subsistence, with the 1st and 2d Battalions Seventh Iowa Cavalry. Arrived at Fort Kearney in July, was immediately assigned to the position of Acting Assistant Quartermaster, Acting Assistant Commissary of Subsistence, Acting Ordnance Officer, and Disbursing Officer, at that Post, in which capacity he served until the spring of 1864, when he, in the same capacity, accompanied the command of General R. B. Mitchell, on an expedition against the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians, across the plains and into the Rocky Mountains; was then assigned to similar duties at old Fort Halleck, whence he was removed in December, 1864, by appointment to the position of a Special Provost Marshal on the staff of Major General Samuel R. Curtis, commanding the Department of the Missouri, and stationed at Fort Laramie. His duties in this capacity necessarily called his attention and often his presence to points extending over most of the country mentioned in this work.

On the 11th of June, 1865, he started with the command of Captain W. D. Fouts, Seventh Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, to remove 2,500 friendly Sioux Indians from Fort Laramie to Fort Kearney, where the Government might feed them at a less expense. On the night of the 13th, at the mouth of Horse Creek, on the Platte River, a hostile band of three hundred Sioux warriors crossed the Platte, and at daylight the whole band, friendlies included, attacked the little band of troops, seventy in number, and kept up a continual fight until 4 o'clock P. M. Seven whites were killed and thirteen wounded. Among the killed was Captain Fouts. It is not known how many Indians were killed. Nineteen dead bodies were captured on the field, and a great many were carried away during the fight. The Author was then promoted to the rank of Captain to fill the vacancy, which position he resigned in July following. Since that time, with the exception of one year, he has been a resident within the Rocky Mountains, and for the last four years of Wyoming Territory, and has been engaged in exploring the country, prospecting and mining. Being a practical miner and mineralogist, he has had unusual advantages for obtaining all the important facts relative to the characteristics and resources of this particular portion of the country.

◆

GRAND CENTRAL

OMAHA, NEB.

The Largest and Finest Hotel between Chicago and San Francisco.

GEO. THRALL, Proprietor.

SCENERY.

Here, tongue and pen alike fail to convey any adequate impression to one who has not seen and felt the grandeurs, sublimlty and illimitable vastness of a view from the Rocky Mountain peaks. As the traveler leaves behind the valley of the Missouri, and is whirled rapidly over the plains, a feeling comes over him that he is leaving the old world that has hitherto held him prisoner, and gradually rising higher and higher to a new and loftier sphere. New types of plants and animals appear; antelope and buffalo bound over the plains with no shelter or hiding place except in the vastness of their realm. The gaze wanders north and south, but finds no resting place. At length, towards the setting sun, white clouds seem to start from the horizon towards the sky, which take shape as we approach and at last we see the snowy range, rising like a leviathan stretched from pole to pole, whose huge ribs are clad in dark evergreen, and whose frosty crown has dared the summer's sunshine for centuries, and yet maintained an immutable, unmelting coldness. We penetrate the canons and find strange, rare and beautiful flowers clinging to the rude, abrupt cliffs which overhang the dashing, foaming torrents beneath. Strength and beauty mingle in magnificent disorder. We are in a flower garden and by a fountain which nature made and walled in, in one of her wild, wierd moods. It is the sculpture of the Great Artist, executed in bass-relief, and with our ever varying emotions we fancy we stand in a recess of His studio, and with breathless awe await His presence. We ascend some lofty peak, and a world of mountain, valley, stream and plain surround us on every hand. The inspiring grandeur kindles the drowsy adoration in our souls, and we involuntarily worship. The view is indescribable; the emotions awakened inconceivable. It is only by seeing that a true conception of the view can be gained; and to him that has seen how puny seem all the monuments and structures which the hand of man has reared.

CHEYENNE AS A HEALTH RESORT.

Our city, in common with all this mountain region, possesses a fine and healthful atmosphere. Our average temperature is about fifty, our average rain and snow fall about ten inches, with an altitude of about six thousand feet. Owing to the dryness of the air, a temperature of twenty or thirty degrees below zero is not so unpleasantly felt as ten below in the States east of the Missouri. Malarious diseases are almost unknown, and always amenable to proper treatment. Continued fevers are rare, and seldom fatal. Cholera infantum, the scourge of childhood in our eastern cities, only proves fatal in a very small proportion of cases. Infantile diseases generally are mild. Rheumatism, neuralgia, and acute diseases of the pulmonary organs, are not uncommon, but are mostly produced or aggravated by unnecessary exposure. Chronic diseases af the liver, stomach, spleen, or kidneys, *are always benefitted by a residence here.* Invalids suffering with consumption in an advanced stage, or organic diseases of the heart or blood, vessels, *should not come to this high mountain region,* as it will only hasten their death. Persons pre-disposed to consumption or asthma (where there is no organic disease of the heart or lungs) and persons debilitated by long residence in malarious countries, *may come here and be assured of bettering their health.* To all persons in search of health—other than those herein proscribed. Cheyenne offers peculiar facilities. Good hotels, moderate rates of living, its proximity to the mountains, its attractions in the way of curiosities, scenery, the opportunity for recreation, amusement, or instruction in the way of hunting, fishing. botanizing, or mineralogizing are all abundant and convenient. There is not, probably, a single feeble dyspeptic, or over-worked denizen of the East who could not add years of pleasurable existence to his life by spending a few summer months here, and among the adjacent mountains. To get the benefit of the climate, however, he should not shut himself up in the room of his hotel or boarding house, but should go out into the open plains or into the mountains and parks, hunt deer, elk, bear and antelope, which are in abundance, catch the speckled trout from the brooks with his own hands, and broil and eat them by his own camp-fire, bathe in our pure waters, and thus put himself in direct contact with Nature's healing remedies in her own laboratory.

LOCATION OF THE CITY OF CHEYENNE.

Cheyenne is situated at the junction of the Union Pacific and Kansas Pacific Railroads, and about seventeen miles from the base of the Black Hills range, on a high plain the elevation of which is six thousand feet above the level of the sea, and five hundred and sixteen miles west of Omaha. Also near the western edge of that great, ugly spot we used to see on the maps in our school boy days, called the "Great American Desert." And right here we would say that the man who has carelessly settled in his mind that these great plains reaching from the Missouri River to the Rocky Mountains, are a "worthless, barren waste," should by all means take a trip over the Union Pacific Railroad, and see the thousands of head of cattle, horses and sheep that subsist entirely on the very nutritious grasses of this same old time "Desert," and at the same time along the eastern half of these plains cast a glance over the most beautiful fields of all kinds of grain that the eye ever beheld and behold this same desert soil so prolific that the inhabitants thereof raise Indian corn for fuel, which can be seen as far as farming settlements have been made. And when he arrives at this western "ragged edge," in the beautiful city of Cheyenne, he should take notice of the lovely stream of pure water coursing down each side of every street, irrigating gardens and promoting the growth of trees and shrubbery, which are already pretty extensively cultivated.

Camp Carlin, a District Military Supply Depot, is situated on Crow Creek, two miles above Cheyenne, where have been erected immense warehouses and storehouses for containing Military and Indian goods; also large wagon, blacksmith and harness shops, in fact every requisite for storing goods and manufacturing and repairing transportation outfits, and furnishes employment to quite a number of mechanics and laborers.

One mile further up the stream, or three miles from Cheyenne, is situated Fort D. A. Russell, a fifteen-company garrison for troops.

This Post is a District Headquarters and generally retains as a reserve an average of about nine companies of troops for service in any part of the Territory where mostly needed. Hence we find this Fort, together with the business of Camp Carlin in the transfer of goods and freighting to other Posts and Indian Agencies, a very substantial item in the business interests of Cheyenne.

Crow Creek, a beautiful stream having its source in the Black Hills Range, runs through the southwest corner of the town site. A large ditch has been made tapping this stream some five miles above the city, conveying a portion of the water therefrom out upon the high lands to, and filling a large natural basin of an area of about three hundred and twenty acres, and of a depth of over thirty feet in the center. This beautiful little lake is situated two miles due north of the city, and is about one hundred feet higher than the same; thereby furnishing a reservoir capable of sustaining as fine a system of Water Works as any city could wish for, as well as supplying all necessary water for irrigating farms and gardens in and about the city. This daughter of the enterprise of the citizens of Cheyenne, has been duly christened Lake Mahpaluta, which means troubled waters; nor does this enterprise stop here. This ditch has been continued about three miles farther and fills another natural basin on the east of town of nearly the same dimensions, which is known as Lake Minnehaha—Laughing Waters. These dutiful as well as beautiful daughters of Cheyenne's noble and artistic citizens, fostered and encouraged by a true parental spirit, will forever remain a loyal support to the fostering hands that gave them existence. And right here we feel in duty bound to pay a small tribute to the wonderful energy of this people. From the Banker and Merchant Prince, down to the proprietor of the smallest Pea-nut stand, we find each and every human form richly endowed with that true spirit of energy and enterprise so peculiar to the American people. Upon acquaintance with her citizens we feel that we can truthfully say tnat no city in the United States of the same population can boast of more of this true Yankee spirit than can this "Magic City" of Cheyenne. It appears that the greater portion of the energy and ability brought forward by our Government in the construction of our great National highway, the Union Pacific Railroad, has concentrated in Cheyenne and by the master power she has wielded over all opposition. She has well earned the name by which she is well known throughout the West—"The Magic City."

It is not our intention to disparage or detract from the inducements and advantages claimed by other points, still in justice to parties intending to go into the Black Hills or Big Horn countries it must be said that most of the claims putforth are hardly worthy of consideration. The maps decide the question of distance, so it will not be necessary to touch on that point.

The route via Bismark is longer than via Cheyenne, and is totally impracticable except for a large outfit. Parties coming from the East will have to make a large detour to the north to reach Bismark, and when they get there they will be farther from the mines than if they had come direct to Cheyenne. The Press of Sioux City claim great advantages for that point. From Sioux City the distance to be traveled by wagon or pack train is all of six hundred miles, and a great portion of the route through a country infested by hostile Indians, also over a great portion of this road the soil is perfectly saturated with alkali and the water so fully impregnated with it that this country has long been known as "The Bad Lands." Another route recommended is via Fort Randall, but this is farther than the Cheyenne route, with the additional difficulty of an inferior road totally impracticable during the winter by reason of deep snow. Parties coming from the east, west, or south, can reach Cheyenne by rail. Without decrying any of the proposed routes from points on the Upper Missouri River, we assert that the route from Cheyenne northward is the safest, speediest, cheapest and best to reach the Black Hills. Cheyenne being at the junction of the two competing railroads from the East—the Union Pacific and Kansas Pacific. It will be two days' railroad travel to Cheyenne from Chicago or St. Louis. The following table will show the distance and present rate of fare from these two points to Cheyenne:

	MILES.	1ST CLASS FARE.	2D CLASS FARE.
Chicago to Omaha	490	$16.00	$13.00
St. Louis via St. Joe to Omaha	487	16.00	13.00
Omaha to Cheyenne	516	31.00	24.00
Chicago to Cheyenne	1,006	47.00	37.00
St. Louis to Cheyenne via Leavenworth and Denver	1,053	49.00	40.00

We are credibly informed by the representatives of these two railroad companies, that special rates will be given from Chicago and from St. Louis to Cheyenne, to Black Hills parties, which will be at least one-third less than the above rates. There are two routes that may be taken to the Hills from Cheyenne. The one by way of Fort Laramie, Raw Hide Buttes, Old Woman's Fork and Beaver Creek is one hundred and eighty-two miles. This route passes through a settled country for a hundred miles or so. Good ranches will be found every few miles as far as Fort Laramie. There is now a stage line on it owned by J. C. Abney, that carries the United States mail to and from the Fort, and also passengers at ten dollars a piece. This line will be extended to the Black Hills right away if the Government permits it to be done. The road is an unusually good one, and is constantly traveled by the military, by freighters, by ranchmen, settlers and others.

The following table of distances over this route is correct:

		MILES.	
Cheyenne to	Pole Creek, Schwartz ranch	18—	
" "	Horse Creek, Fagin's ranch	10—	28
" "	Bear Springs, Armijo's ranch	11—	39
" "	Chugwater, Philip's ranch	14—	53
" "	Hunton's ranche	14—	67
" "	Owen's ranch	4—	71
" "	Eagle's Nest	7—	78
" "	Six Mile ranch	14—	92
" "	Fort Laramie	6—	98
" "	Spring Branch	12—	110
" "	Raw Hide	12—	122
" "	Running Water	15—	137
" "	Headwaters Old Woman's Fork	12—	149
" "	Down this stream to Lightning Creek	12—	161
" "	Beaver Creek	12—	173
" "	South Fork Cheyenne at Black Hills	9—	182

The other route is by way of Reel's ranch, down Horse Creek to near its mouth, crossing the North Platte River at Nick Janise's ranche, about thirty miles east of Fort Laramie, and thence in a northeasterly direction, over a good road, to Red Cloud Agency. This route is also traveled by a stage line, which carries the mail and passengers from Cheyenne to Red Cloud and Spotted Tail Agencies, owned by Hoshier & Cinnamond, and also by freight trains, ranchmen and settlers. This route is settled up as far as the Platte River, and all of the Indian goods for these agencies and most of the military supplies for the two military posts at the agencies, Camps Robinson and Sheridan, are transported over it. The fare to Red Cloud is fifteen dollars, and the distance from there to the Black Hills is about fifty miles.

The following table of distances by this route is also correct:

		MILES.	
Cheyenne to	Reel's ranch	18—	
" "	Pole Creek	2—	20
" "	Spring Creek	20—	40
" "	La Grange ranch	4—	44
" "	1st crossing Horse Creek	1—	45
" "	2d crossing Horse Creek	11—	56
" "	Campbell ranch	3—	59
" "	3d crossing Horse Creek	14—	73
" "	North Platte River	6—	79
" "	Spoon Butte	16—	95
" "	Niobrara River	21—	116
" "	Fort Laramie road	13—	129
" "	Spring Branch (tributary of White Earth River)	5—	134
" "	Red Cloud Agency	11—	145
" "	Black Hills	50—	195

By a glance at the map accompanying this work, it will be seen that the distance from Cheyenne to the Powder River Country is about the same as that of the distance to the Black Hills, and the road is already well known to be a good one by all who have ever passed over the old wagon road as marked out to Montana. A railroad built on or near the line of this wagon road would certainly be the best investment of capital of any we know of anywhere within the domain of the Great West, and we here predict the completion of the Cheyenne and Montona Railroad within the next three years. From this grand trunk road, a branch can easily be extended to the Cheyenne River, Black Hills; another reaching out into the Rosebud, Tongue River and Little Missouri country, and still others reaching the valleys of the Big Horn, Wind River, Sweetwater, etc., and also the Great National Park, thereby developing the resources and obtaining an immense trade from the richest and most beautiful country on earth. We here positively assert that Northern Wyoming is the only country we have ever traveled over which is actually beyond exaggeration with its various and wonderful resources, marvelously beautiful scenery, climate, and everything requisite to make home pleasant, all branches of business paying, and life delightful; and we are endorsed in this assertion by every Government expedition and private party who have ever passed through the country.

FIRST SETTLEMENT.

About the 22d day of July, 1867, the Union Pacific Railroad Company commenced the sale of town lots in Cheyenne—the survey of the town site having been completed at that time, and the fact of Cheyenne being determined upon by the magnates of the company as *the termini* town on this great national highway for and during the winter following, and on account of the Herculean task of constructing this railroad across the range of the Black Hills immediately adjacent to this terminus, Cheyenne was looked upon as the most favorable, and proved to be the most favored point for the immense business which followed the line of construction of this wonderful national enterprise. From the time of the announcement of this location, enterprising people commenced pouring in from all points of the compass, attracted toward the great railroad center at the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains, as naturally as the needle points to the poles. Other towns of the West have been built and populated with marvelous rapidity, but it has remained with Cheyenne to spring, full-fledged, into existence, as it were, in a single night. Hence the name "Magic City." Town lots 66x132 feet, that were sold by the Union Pacific Railroad Company for one hundred and fifty dollars, only one-third cash required, within thirty days thereafter sold for one thousand dollars cash, and in from two to three months following the same lots were in demand at from two thousand dollars to two thousand five hundred dollars. Even the magnates of the Railroad Company, together with some of our nation's most renowned statesmen, capitalists and scientists, after seeing this railroad completed across the great plains, in the construction of which every stick of timber, cross-ties, etc., had to be shipped from the Missouri River, and seeing the immense forests as well as the great Gold fields at the heart of the American Continent—*the Rocky Mountains*—had been reached, joined in with the over-elated populace and contributed liberally to the general fund of rejoicings then so peculiar to this locality. On the 15th day of July, 1767, there was but one house to mark the spot where now stands the beautiful city of Cheyenne, and that was owned and occupied by *Wm. Larimer*, and where within the short space of six months thereafter there stood no less than three thousand buildings or structures in which to live or do business. To be sure a great many of these structures were of that peculiar kind found chiefly in the termini towns on the line of this railroad Some were constructed of logs, some of cross-ties stood on end for the walls, with canvas roof, others were made of cloth, with stakes or posts set in the ground for corners, and others the ordinary canvas tent, and yet another kind were of boards put together in sections in such a manner as to be easily taken down and moved forward to the next available point on the road, together with a great many large, commodious and more substantial buildings which were constructed of stone, wood, and adobe, some of which look quite creditable to this day. The first of this class was erected by our fellow-townsman Judge J. R. Whitehead, known then and now as the Whitehead Block, situated on Eddy street between 16th and 17th street.

BANKING.

Banking was commenced in Cheyenne on the 28th of September, 1867, by Rogers & Co , a branch of the First National Bank of Denver, Mr. R. K. Morrison, the then resident partner and manager of the business. He first estahlished himself in a tent, with a safe for valuables, thence to the corner of a grocery store, and finally on the 1st of November, to a large and commodious building on the corner of Eddy and 16th streets, erected for the purpose. The deposits of this bank reached one hundred thousand dollars on the 1st of January, 1868. Kountze Bros. & Co., the well-known bankers of Omaha, Denver and Central City, opened a branch house in Cheyenne in October, 1868, under the charge of Mr. W. B. Berger and Mr. Charles Sherman, of Chicago, and carried on a heavy business, their deposits reaching in a very short time the sum of one hundred and seventy thousand dollars. J. A. Ware & Co., of Nebraska City and Omaha, had been conducting a banking business for some time and moved from Julesburg to Cheyenne about he 1st of November, 1868. Mr. Ware had for several years done a large business with overland traders. The house at Cheyenne was placed under the charge of our present banker, Mr. Posey S. Wilson, and received the same patronage from this source, together with their share of the general business. Their deposits averaged about ninety thousand dollars. These statements need no elaboration to show the extent of business then transacted in Cheyenne, and give an exhibit such as few towns of ten times the size can boast.

FREIGHTING.

The government freight received at Cheyenne from November, 1867, to February, 1868, amounted to over six thousand tons, and occupied twelve large warehouses at Camp Carlin, two miles above the city. The government goods, military and Indian, for the Forts and Agencies, within possible range, have, to the present time, and will continue to be shipped from this point. The contracts have ranged from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 pounds of goods per annum, and have to be handled here. In the month of October, 1867, General Stevenson completed a large stone fire-proof warehouse, 80x120 feet, which was conducted by I. W. French & Co., and used exclusively for storage and forwarding. It cost twenty-five thousand dollars, and had a cellar 60x60 feet. This firm did an immense trade. The Nye Forwarding Company, well known at that time as a prominent freight line, located at Cheyenne in September, 1868, and was conducted under the personal supervision of Mr. John A. Nye, the founder of the company. During the year following this company alone moved over 6,000,000 pounds of freight over different routes. The company run a fast freight and passenger line from Cheyenne to Denver, up to the completion of the Denver Pacific Railroad, in 1869, by which they carried passengers at twelve dollars per capita. Megeath & Co., engaged very extensively in the same business in October, 1868; during that month they forwarded 2,000,000 pounds of freight to different points in the territories. In November, 1,500,000 pounds; in December, January and February, about 1,250,000 pounds per month. The business of Woolworth, Barton & Co., was probably as large as either of these, but the figures cannot be accurately obtained. We think it would make an uninteresting and tedious history to continue this list through all the various branches of business as some of our citizens have suggested. Suffice it to say, that over three hundred distinct firms were doing business in Cheyenne during the fall and winter of 1867–8, representing every branch of business and supplying all demands of this great human herd.

The rush of travel to Cheyenne was probably greater than ever passed through any town of its size in times of peace. Thousands arrived who scarcely knew where or for what they came; adventurers of every conceivable description, men who sought a place for permanent investment and abode, and the great floating mass who can not exist away from sensations and excitements. To provide for these houseless and homeless ones was certainly a Herculian task, and it is truly wonderful that such complete accommodations as did exist were provided in the short time allowed. The marvelous rapidity with which buildings sprung up was the wonder of all men from the east, who in their astonishment would naturally think of the wonderful stories related in the Arabian Knights, or something similar. As an illustration of this enterprise, we record the following well illustrated instance: Messrs. E. P. Snow and W. N. Monroe arrived in Cheyenne on the 15th of August, as managers of the firm of M. S. Hall, railroad contractors, and in just forty-eight hours after their arrival, had built and completed a building 25x55 feet, a wooden structure and substantial, the same afterwerds occupied by A. R. Converse, as an outfitting store. Of the three hundred or more firms doing business here that fall and winter, over seventy made sales to the amount of over ten thousand dollars per month each; and some firms sales reached over thirty thousand dollars per month.

The 13th day of November, 1867, will long be remembered by the old citizens of Cheyenne, as the day the track of the Union Pacific railroad reached the city limits. Music was heard on all sides, flags streamed over some of the principal streets, and the population turned out *en masse* to welcome its advent. On the 14th, the first through passenger train arrived from Omaha, having on board Sidney Dillon, now President of the U. P. R. R., then the President of the Credit Mobilier; John Finn, Esq., David Street, Superintendent Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express; Col. J. Q. Lewis, Mr. W. Snyder, Freight Superintendent U. P. R. R.; Major Wooley, wife, and servants, Mr and Mrs. Schimonsky, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lee, Mr. H. Blickensderfer and Edward Creighton. The conductor of this train was Mr. G. A. Weed. This was the first party that ever crossed the whole of the great Plains on a railroad train. A large and enthsiastic meeting of the citizens assembled on the 14th, in front of the City Hall, to extend a public greeting to the railroad, through the person of the great track-layer, General Casement. The first freight train ever brought through to Cheyenne, over the U. P. R. R., was brought by our present worthy townsmen, Sam'l L. Smith, as conductor, who has lived in Cheyenne ever since, serving the Union Pacific Company in the same capacity.

EVENTS IN THE EARLY HISTORY OF CHEYENNE.

On Sunday the 4th of August, 1857, the first sermon preached in Cheyenne was delivered by a Baptist minister.

On the 7th of August a meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a provisional city government. Mr. Ed. Brown was called to the chair, and R. M. Beers, made secretary. J. R. Whitehead and Mr. Spicer, made speeches, in which they pointed out the necessity for a city government being organized with the least possible delay. A charter was prepared on the following day, and a mass meeting called for the 9th, to nominate city officers. On the 9th the mass meeting nominated Ed. Brown for mayor, there being, however, a strong opposition manifested by Mr. Hook's friends, who met subsequently at Beckwith's store and nominated a complete opposition ticket as follows: For Mayor, H. M. Hook; for Councilmen, A. C. Beckwith, R. E. Talpy, W. H. Harlow, S. M. Preshaw, J. C. Willis, and J. B. Thompson; for City Attorney, J. R. Whitehead; for City Treasurer, N. H. Meldrum; for City Clerk, Thos. E. McLeland, for City Marshal, J. T. Rutledge. On the following day the election was held, and for a western town, was conducted in a remarkably quiet manner. The Hook ticket was elected with but one exception—the city marshal—for which office E. Melanger received the largest number of votes. H. M. Hook's majority for mayor, was only five, showing the close fight and the numerous friends of both parties. No startling events transpired during the few weeks following, but the marvellous rapidity with which buildings sprung up, as if by magic, filled all with wonder and amazement. The people of Cheyenne at first found great difficulty in obtaining their letters and mail generally, as they were compelled to rely solely on Wells, Fargo & Co., for the delivery of the mails. This system of postal arrangements was however improved on the 9th of September, by an order received from Washington, appointing Thos. E. McLeland, postmaster of Cheyenne. The post-office was first established on Sixteenth street, in a frame building 10x15 feet square. This building being found too small for the enormous mails that soon begun to pour in, Mr. McLeland commenced building a post office on the corner of Ferguson and Seventeenth streets, on the same site where the post office now stands, and completed the same, 20x46, on the 30th day of October, 1867. The entire cost of the building came out of McLeland's own pocket. The thanks of the entire community were certainly due that gentleman for the energy and ability manifested in the performance of his duties. When he assumed the position, the salary allowed by the United States was *one dollar per month*. The average number of letters arriving and departing, was two thousand six hundred per day, which number was more than doubled before the 1st of January. The salary, however, was soon raised to two thousand dollars per year. THE FIRST NEWSPAPER was issued on the 19th day of September by N. A. Baker, a gentleman of decided ability who had been connected for a long time with the Press of Colorado, and afterwards labored earnestly for the interests of the young territory of Wyoming. Mr. Baker arrived in Cheyenne on the night of the 16th of September, and at noon on the 19th, the citizens were commenting on the merits of the *Leader*, the name of the pioneer paper of Wyoming. The typography and general make up of the sheet was very neat, and the matter showed a taste seldom excelled in the far West. To the old files of the *Leader* we are indebted for much of the early history of Cheyenne.

On the 20th of September, General Stevenson set off forty acres of ground from the east end of the military reservation to be used by the city and also by the troops at Fort Russell, as a cemetery. On the 22d, Judge J. P. Bartlett, United States Commissioner, arrived in Cheyenne. The *Leader* of the 24th describes the Judge as a young man, of fine legal abilities and social worth. On the 10th of September, the first murder was committed by Dugan and a man named Howard, at a place called "robbers' roost," about twenty miles west of Cheyenne, in the hills; the murdered man was an Irish laborer, on the U. P. R. R., name unknown, and cause, whisky. Howard escaped and Dugan was arrested, but escaped justice by a trial with plenty of witneses, the same as he did once before in Central City, Colorado, for the same crime. Justice, however, overtook this villain about one year afterward. He tramped to Denver in 1868, and being short of funds, he in company with one Franklin, halted Judge Brooks, a police magistrate of that city and a very old gentlemen, and simply took what cash he had on his person, eighty-six dollars; although it was eleven o'clock at night, these gentlemen's faces were too familiar to the old Judge and he recognized them in the star-light, and the next day Franklin was killed by the officers. and Dugan was shortly afterwards captured and hung by the citizens of Denver.

On the 27th of September, a mass meeting was held at the City Hall for the purpose of forming a county organization. The Hon. H. M. Hook was elected chairman and J. R. Whitehead, Esq., secretary. Tne proceedings were remarkable for the unanimity of feeling that existed. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the chairman, with the advice and consent of this meeting, shall appoint three commissioners who shall proceed to district the county into election districts; appoint judges of election to be held on the second Tuesday, (8th day) of October next, at which election all the territorial, county and township officers, provided for by the laws of Dakota for regularly organized counties, shall be elected; and the name of this county shall be Laramie, and its boundaries shall be the same as established by the act of the Legislative Assembly of Dakota, and that W. L. Kuykendall, Dr. Bedell and Thos. J. Street, shall be commissioners to perform such duty.

Resolved That the question of location of the county seat shall be submitted at said election, and the point receiving the greatest number of votes shall be the county seat.

Resolved, That all the citizens of the United States who shall have been residents of this Territory for ten days next preceding the election, and of the precinct in which they shall appear to vote, shall be entitled to vote at such election.

The second occurrence of Divine Service took place at the City Hall on the 20th of September, the Rev. W. W. Baldwin, officiating. Some seventy persons were present.

In the issue of the *Leader* of October 3rd, we find the business houses had rapidly increased, and Mr. Baker's advertising columns commenced assuming formidable proportions.

On the 4th of October, a terrible affray took place which resulted in the death of Pat Mallaly, and a man known as Limber Jim. This affair caused great excitement and but for the ability and firmness of the city government, would have resulted in the inaugeration of a reign of terror.

The election on the 8th passed off quietly with just enough excitement to make it interesting. The following gentlemen were elected: For Delegate to Congress, J. S. Casement; Representative to the Legislature, J. R. Whitehead: County Commissioners, C. L. Howell, M. L. Hinman and W. L. Hopkins; Probate Judge, W. L. Kuykendall; District Attorney, Thos. J. Street; Sheriff, D. J. Sweney; Register of Deeds, J. H. Creighton; Treasurer, L. L. Bedell; Coroner, James Irwin; Superintendent of Schools, J. H. Gildersleeve; Surveyor, F. Landberg. The total number of votes polled were nineteen hundred.

A party of editorial excurtionists arrived in town on the 13th of October, and were warmly received by General Stevenson and the citizens, and on the following day, became the guests of the city, and the City Hall was placed at their disposal. In the evening a sumptous banquet was given in honor of the visitors, at which W. H. Miller, Esq., in a neat and appropriate speech welcomed these national headlights, who like the "*Eastern Magi*" of old, were following the "Star of Empire as Westward it takes its way." Admiration was expressed by the entire party at the energy and enterprise displayed by the people of Cheyenne, and the reports published in their respective journals, have helped not a little to build up this "Magic City" of North America.

On the 20th of October, another thumping match or prize fight, as it was called, came off between John Hardy and Enoch Winters, in a ring one mile and a half from the city. The *Leader* says "the fight lasted *only* thirty minutes; Hardy coming off winner."

On the 25th, the first number of the *Daily Argus* made its appearance, edited by Lucien L. Bedell, Esq., and was at once made the official organ of the city. On the same day, the telegraph line from Laporte, Col., was completed to Cheyenne.

On the 1st of November, a party of people from Julesburg, arrived in Cheyenne, and determined, (as they called it,) to maintain their "rights as squatters," seized a number of town lots and commenced building thereon.

On the 9th day of November, 1867, we find two events having occurred which we think will beautifully illustrate the truth of the old proverb, "That oil and water will not mix, so that the oil will not rise to the top," as applied to the objects and destinies of mankind. Here, we had as before stated in this work, all classes of humanity congregated, and as it were, "shook up" into one turbulent mixture; but on this eventful day, from some cause, there appears a slight calm. We find a great portion of this population, led away in one direction, by a lot of men calling themselves "sports," who appear to have been determined that Cheyenne, although in its infancy, should keep pace with some of our most important eastern cities, in cultivating the animal portion of man, or as they termed it "physical development," to witness one of those brutal sights—a prize fight, between John Hardy and John Shaughnessy, for five hundred dollars a side. This item we have no trouble in obtaining the minutest details. "The fight lasted one hour and forty-three minutes, during which time one hundred and twenty-six rounds were fought, closing by a foul claimed by Hardy, and allowed by the referee. Both men evinced considerable pluck, and all parties were satisfied that this was one of the most *honorable* fights that ever transpired." So says the reporter of this important event.

But while we find one portion of this people enjoying this rather *striking* amusement, we find another portion gathered together on the same day in another locality, who, having followed the "Star of Empire" in her Westward course, appeared to have a purpose to perform far more worthy, and with that heroism peculiar to the true pioneer, who *comes* west rather tnan *floats* west, this brave band of nature's noblemen, did on that day, hire a building, made all necessary arrangements and established a public school, the first in Cheyenne, and the pioneer school of the then future Territory of Wyoming, thereby planting the germ which has since grown into a most beautiful system of education. Thus, while the great floating herd was delighted with the cultivation and show of the *animal*, the real citizens were laying the corner stone of a great State, and contributing their services to the future benefit of *man*.

George Francis Train arrived in Cheyenne on the 11th of November, accompanied by Thos. C. Durant, Vice President of the Union Pacific Railroad, Commissioner White, and a number of ladies. The enterprise of Train, even when clouded by his eccentricites, is really wonderful; and we cannot but admire the giant projects which claim him as their originator. This party had not been in town six hours, before the irrepressible Train had run up a great hotel project, and had formed a company and contracted for a hotel 132x132 feet and three stories high; work was commenced immediately, but the requisite stamps failed to be forthcoming and the building was never completed.

A horrible double murder took place on the 28th of November. It appears that four men, named respectively Mead, Shepherd, Hazlett and James Cullen, *alias* Burns, *alias* Shorty, had been living in a "dug out" in the side of one of the bluffs opposite the city. On the morning of the 28th, Cullen arose from his bed before the others, and seized his revolver, saying he saw a jack-rabbit, stepped out, and discharged one shot, returned and fired at his companisons, killing Mead instantly by a shot in the head, and fatally wounding Shepherd, who died on the following day. Hazlett received a shot in the right breast which was skillfully extracted, and owing to his strong constitution and youth, he being only nineteen years old, speedily recovered. The murderer, Cullen, was captured, indicted by the grand jury at the first term of the District Court in March, 1868, at which time his case was continued until the August term; in the meantime, however, he made his escape. It is the opinion that this terrible crime was committed under a freak of insanity, as no cause for the murder could be ascertained from any of the parties.

December 8th, a railroad track was completed from the main line of the U. P. R. R. at Cheyenne to Fort Russell. On the same day, the *Rocky Mountain Star*, edited by O. B. F. Williams, made its first appearance.

Chritmas and the holidays were spent in a lively manner. The streets were thronged with people, merchants displayed extra wares, many balls were given, and Cheyenne seemed to sail through the holidays, like a ship on a beautiful sea with a fair wind.

About the 6th of January, news reached town that the Dakota

Legislature had granted a charter to the city of Cheyenne, and that an election under its provisions would shortly be held.

THE VIGILANTES.

On the 10th day of January, three men were arrested by the Deputy United States Marshal, charged with having stolen $900.00, and the court being busy with other cases, the prisoners were put under bonds to appear before the U. S. Commissioner on the 14th, to answer to the charge. The prisoners were set at liberty, and on the following morning, about day-light, the three men were found on Eddy street, tied together, walking abreast, with a large canvass attached to them, with the following words very conspicuous: "$900 stole." "$500 returned." "Thieves." "F. St. Clair," "W. Grier," "E. D. Brownville." "City authorities please not interfere until 10 o'clock a. m." "Next case goes up a tree." "Beware of Vigilance Committee."

People living in old settled communities may at first think that the Vigilance Committees of the Rocky Mountain region are a source of evil, but on a moments consideration they will recognize the necessity of having either an extraordinary powerful city government, or in lieu thereof, a power that will make crime hide its head and give a feeling of security to law abiding citizens. Such a power is the Vigilantes. They restrain desperadoes from practicing their lawless work, and give an assurance of safety to the honest man who desires to make this region his home.

Information arrived on the 16th that a bill had passed the Legislature of Dakota, organizing the county of Laramie, and that the following gentlemen were appointed to the county offices:—Sheriff, J. L. Laird; Recorder, Wm. L. Morris; County Commissioner, Benjamin Ellinger, P. McDonald and —— Beals; Coroner, Dr. Johnson; Superintendent Public Schools, J. H. Gildersleve; Justices of the Peace, A. B. Moore, A. W. Brown; Constable, S. Masterson. Also, that a bill had passed to organize a District Court for this part of Dakota. On the same day, the Act of Incorporation for the city of Cheyenne arrived, and on the following day, an election was called by J. P. Bartlett, Wm. Martin and G. M. O'Brien, to be held on the 23d of January.

On the night of the 16th, a general schooting scrape took place at the "New Idea Saloon." A gang of low ruffians by the names of Jack Hays, D. Cunningham, Dan Miller, Andy Harris, Jack Breslan and some others, went to the saloon for the purpose of making a fight; the above named men were arrested but set free on their giving bonds. Two hundred men paraded the town on the following night, well armed. They were a portion of the Vigilance Committee of Laramie county. Thorough search was made for the desperadoes who had done the shooting on the night previous, but the parties having secreted themselves outside of the city, of course were not found.

J. R. Whitehead arrived the same evening, bringing the bill organizing Laramie county; also, the one creating the Second Judicial District for this part of the Territory.

In addition to the county officers already appointed, we notice the names of Wm. L. Kuykendall, as Probate Judge; S. H. Winsor, Surveyor; and E. P. Johnson, District Attorney. The Hon. Asa Bartlett, Chief Justice of the Territory, was assigned to this the Second Judicical District, and the first term of his court was ordered for the first Monday in March.

On the 20th of January, the county was relieved of three men, whose presence had caused many an honest man to grasp the butt of his revolver or look around for a weapon of defense. The Vigalantes had discovered Jack Hays, Kief and "Shorty," at Dale City, a town about forty miles west of Cheyenne, and compelled the above named men to accompany them. Although the three begged hard to be set free, yet their past career had been one of so wicked a nature, that the most humane among their judges could not conscientiously plead for them, and they were soon launched into eternity. This prompt action caused a gathering up of "traps" and a slight "skedaddle" amoug some gentlemen that had no visible means of obtaining a livelihood, and insured the quiet of the town, for a time at least.

On the 23d, an order was issued by the Vigilantes, ordering the following persons to leave town within twenty-four hours:—G. Brown, Nell Murphy, Coke, J. Bristol, T. Campbell, E. Debonville, T. F. Clair, D. Cunningham, "Sleepy Bill," and D. Mullen.

The charter election held on the 28th, resulted in the election of Col. Luke Murrin, for Mayor; D. J. Sweeny, for Marshal; Ed. Orpen, for Clerk; R. K. Morrison, for Treasurer; and the following for Councilmen :—Chas. Steinberger, J. C. Liddell, P. McDonald, J. F. Hamilton, Wm. Wise and N. A. Hodgemann. The total number of votes polled were 1,002. More than double this number would have been cast, but for an act prohibiting parties voting who had not been residents of the city for three months.

About the 10th of January, Charles Martin and Wm. A. Jones *alias* Andy Harris, robbed General Dandy, U. S. A., of $5000, and with this money bought the Beauvais House, a hotel then running in the city, and converted the same into a dance-house and a house of ill-fame, which run for a short time apparently smooth, until trouble came into their own camp. Jones came to the conclusion that Martin was robbing *him* of his share of the profits of their co-partnership, and made some desperate threats, whereupon, on the 13th of February, Martin killed Jones by shooting him with a revolver. Martin was arrested, indicted, and on the 19th of March was tried by a jury, and acquitted, and on the 21st of March, was taken by the Vigilance, Committee and hung. The hanging brought forth a full confession of the robbery of General Dandy, and the appropriation of the booty as above stated.

About the 15th of February, Wm. Reed, a wagon-master at Camp Carlin, killed Michael Heenan, also by shooting, and was acquitted by the courts on the ground of justifiiable homicide.

About the same time, one Martin Menane, proprietor of a dance-house, and somewhat noted for persuading men whom he met in proper obscurity to throw up their hands and allow him to take what cash and valuables they might have, followed a soldier on his way to Fort Russell, and, at what he supposed to be the proper time, made the usual demand, whereupon the soldier whirled and shot him, killing him instantly. The affair created very little if any excitement, and the soldier was justified by the courts and by the Citizens.

On the 22d day of February, 1868, our present townsman, Mr. Frank Hunter, was appointed a Detective by the commandant at Fort D. A. Russell, for the purpose of ferreting out and bringing to justice, the many thieves and robbers who were at that time prowling about the country and living upon the hard earnings of good citizens, by a well organized system of robbery. At the time of his appointment, he was furnished by the military authority with a horse, saddle, and all necessary equipments for carrying out this purpose, and within twenty-four hours thereafter, the whole outfit was stolen from him. This bold act so excited both citizens and the military, that a united and determined effort was made to break up this band, which resulted favorably. Mr. Hunter deserves great credit for his zealous labors in this cause. Within one year from the date above mentioned, eight of the leaders of this organization were hung by the Vigilance Committee in different parts of the country, four were killed in capturing, and five were sent to the penitentiary. These results struck terror to the hearts of all roughs, and those who could, escaped to parts unknown. This left Cheyenne and vicinity in the peaceable and quiet possession of the real citizens and business men, and was truly a great era in the wants of the early history of our city. Cheyenne has since been controlled by a good class of law-abiding citizens, who have entrusted the punishment of crime to the courts, and the city has grown up in peace and prosperity.

CHEYENNE IS THE CAPITAL OF WYOMING TERRITORY,

and nothing is more fitting or proper, as the final conclusion of the task we have undertaken, than to take a brief, cursory glance at its business prospects, its permanent growth, and its future. As the reader will remember, we have chronicled the fact elsewhere, that the first house was erected on the present site of the "Magic City" in 1867. It now has a population of nearly four thousand, and in support of this assertion, it will be in order to mention here that at the last election held in September, 1875, 1,265 votes were polled in Cheyenne, which, allowing that one individual out of every three, is a voter, would give a population of 3,765. There were at least 250 voters in the city who did not vote at that election; hence, the estimate that we have made must certainly be a reasonable and fair one.

Cheyenne has been the Capital of the Territory ever since its organization in 1867, and although at every session of the legislature, there has been more or less agitation on the question of moving the capital to Laramie City, or some other town further west, yet it still remains the seat of government, and is likelv to for some time to come.

THE COUNTY SEAT OF LARAMIE COUNTY.

Cheyenne is also the county seat of Laramie county the most populous county in the territory. This, taken in consideration with the fact that, on account of its being the capital, the Governor, Secretary, and nearly all of the Federal appointees reside here, and it is here that the sessions of the Legislature and the Supreme Court are held, making it quite a point of attraction, not only to the people of the territory but also to those of Northern Colorado and Western Nebraska.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, ETC.

We must briefly notice some of the public buildings in Cheyenne, as well as others that are really a credit to the city, and, indeed, to the whole Territory. First in order we will mention the Laramie county Court House, which has also been used as the Capital building, the Legislature of '73 holding its session therein. This building was completed about three years ago, and cost, in connection with the jail, about $47,000. It is a noble structure, and is pronounced by many to be the best building of the kind west of the Missouri, with the exception of that at Omaha and one or two other western cities. The Jail, in connection with the Court House, is a very substantial one, and adjoining it on the north is the Sheriff's residence. The new City Hall at Cheyenne was built about one year ago at a cost of something like eleven thousand dollars. In the upper story is a large room for a public hall, together with two smaller and well furnished rooms for other purposes. Below is the engine room, fronting on Seventeenth street, and back of this is the City Jail, familiarly known among the Cheyenneites as the "Calaboose." Altogether the City Hall is a fine building and a credit to the city. Nearly opposite to the City Hall, on Seventeenth street, is a one-story brick building occupied by the "Hook and Ladder Company." There are some other buildings in the city that are used and occupied for Federal, Territorial and County purposes, but we will not mention them all as it is only our purpose to refer briefly to such as are among the most prominent. There are five churches in Cheyenne, namely: the Presbyterian, St. Marks, Congregational, Methodist and the Catholic. They are all very fine buildings and point their spires upward toward the heavens, as monuments to the zeal and fidelity with which the followers of the Martyr have upheld His cause in this far western land.

During the present season, B. L. Ford, from Denver, but in early days a resident of this city, has built the "Inter-Ocean Hotel" at a cost of some thirty-eight thousand dollars, and of this noble strocture it may be truly said that it is an honor to the man whose energy and enterprise has caused its erection as well as to the City of Cheyenne and Wyoming Territory. The "Inter-Ocean" is a first-class hotel in every respect, and one of the finest west of Chicago.

Among the other buildings which might be mentioned as being a credit to the place are: Carey Bros.' Block (to cost $40,000, not yet completed), that of Whipple & Hay, Pease & Taylor, Post & Cassels, the Metropolitan Hotel, Landau & Vanocker's Block, Murrins, Nagle's, Housemans, Nichols & Leiby, Hellman's, Addoms & Glovers, J. C. Strong, McDaniel's new theatre, and others. All the buildings above mentioned were erected at a cost of from $5,000 to $40,000 each.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The Territorial Library of which Judge John Slaughter is Librarian, is established in Cheyenne. It consists of a magnificent collection of law and miscellaneous books numbering in all nearly 1,800 volumes. This library is the pride of the entire territory, and for the youngest of the family of territories it is a pretty good library. The City of Cheyenne has also a library of 450 volumes of the works of the most popular authors of the day, among which are many historical works. The first officers of this association were: President, Judge Joseph M. Cary; Vice President, J. Joslin; Treasurer, E. P. Johnson; Secretary, J. Strong; Librarian, Mrs. E. H. Pickett. The officers at present are the same as above with this exception, that E. P. Johnson is Secretary and Treasurer and M. A. Arnold Librarian.

GROWTH OF CHEYENNE.

The growth of Cheyenne for the present year has been veay rapid and substantial. Thirteen large brick business buildings have been put up the present season and fourteen more are in process of erection, The cost of those already put up the present season including those now being erected will foot up to $250,000. In addition to this about 125 residences have been built the present season and 100 more are either in process of erection or are contemplated. These residences on an average have and will cost $800 each, making a total of $180,000 invested this present season. This added to the $250,000 invested in business houses makes a total of $430,000 that will have been invested in substantial improvements in Cheyenne between the 1st day of January, 1875, and the 1st day of January, 1876.

THE BUSINESS OF CHEYENNE.

All branches of business in Cheyenne are well represented, but not overdone. The immense northern trade and the large amount of military and Indian supplies that are shipped from this point to the Military Posts and the Indian Agencies in the northern country is indeed a mine of wealth as it were to Cheyenne and its business men. During the past year the sales of thirty of the leading business houses of Cheyenne have amounted to $2,300,000, an average of nearly $77,000 to the house. Pages of statistics might here be given in regard to the amount of business done in Cheyenne, but as it is not our purpose to encumber this work with such matter we merely mention some of the leading facts in regard thereto; and the reader himself must picture this "Magic City of the Plains," situated in the midst of the great ocean of mountain and plain which gives sustenance to hundreds of thousands of head of cattle and sheep of which the owners do their trading and business at Cheyenne, and behold too the vast trade of the northern country which is tributary to this point. And then if the question shall come up in the mind of the reader as to "what are the resources of Cheyenne," it will be easy to solve the problem and answer the interrogator.

PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The honor of establishing and teaching the first Public School in Cheyenne belongs to M. A. Arnold and wife. As early as the year 1867, the same in which the town had its birth, Mr. Arnold solicited funds to the amount of $2,500, by subscription, and built a school house. in which he commenced a school on the 9th day of February, 1868, his wife being his assistant, both teaching in the same room. The house was one story in height, and 24x40 on the ground. When this house was completed it was formally dedicated to the classic fields of science, with no little parade, W. W. Corlett being the orator, and Dr. Russell the essayist for the memorable occasion. But alas! what changes time brings; how true it is that "Revolutions sweep o'er earth, like troubled visions o'er the breast of dreaming sorrow." Not a vestige of the first school of Cheyenne now remains on the original site. Nothing remains but a small hole in the ground, and this even has not a very classic look. In 1869, an addition was made to the structure 20 feet in length, making it 24x60. The material in this building was worked into Recreation Hall, which was erected in 1870–71. Thus the first school house in Cheyenne, only a few months before solemnly devoted to the advancement of popular education, is transformed, "like a bright exhalation of evening, and no one will ever see it more." There was in the school at its commencement about 100 scholars. Within this number every State in the Union, as well as nearly every nation on the round earth had a representative. Mr. Arnold continued in the school about three months. Dr. Hayford, the present editor of the Laramie *Sentinel*, succeeded Mr. Arnold. At the end of three days the Doctor thinking that teaching the young idea how to shoot was not his *forte*, submissively resigned. It is said by those who were eye-witnesses, that his administration, although short, was nevertheless characterized by frequent showers of paper balls, peas, and even shot. Mr. Wilson succeeded Dr. Hayford, and remained in the school but a few months. S. J. Scriber was Mr. Wilson's successor. Mr. Scriber taught the school with credit for over two years. Early in the year of '71 a meeting of the citizens was called for the purpose of considering the expediency of building a new school house for the District, which then comprised the whole of Laramie county, or over 2,200 square miles, an extent of surface more than equal to that of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island combined. After much opposition, such as is always expected when a new school house is to be built, the party in favor of building, led by E. P. Johnson, E. P. Snow, and other determined men, succeeded in passing a vote to raise the sum of $10,000 by tax for the purpose of building a house which would be a credit to the town and meet the demands of the school, which was daily increasing in numbers. The house was completed early in '72. It is two stories in height and built of brick. It stands on the highest site within the limits of the city, and since its completion has been a more effectual advertisement for inducing an intelligent and moral class of people to stop at Cheyenne and vicinity, than all the printed matter that has been circulated through the country during the same time. It is the first building that attracts the attention of the trans-continental tourist as he approaches the city, and the last which he can see when he leaves it. From the cupola on its top an observer sees the rolling plains stretching out in every direction until it seems to mingle with the low, bending arch of heaven.

Mr. Morgan, assisted by Miss Lizzie Snow, taught the first school in the new house. In the fall of '72, Mr. Morgan was succeeded by the present Principal, N. E. Stark. Mr. Stark's assistants for 1872–3, were Miss Lizzie Snow, Miss Mary Strong, and Miss M. J. Ellis. For 1873–4, Miss Ratie Draper, and Miss Nettie Henderson. For 1874–5, Miss Helen J. Tenney, Miss Nellie McGeehon and Miss Fannie Bryant. For the present school year, viz: 1875–6, they are, Miss Ratie Draper, Miss Maryetta Williams and Miss Fannie Bryant. The school has now four departments, with two grades in each department. For the school year 1874–5, the whole number of pupils enrolled was 313. The present year the number will be still greater, and the house, although large, is already too small for the school. The divisions and grades of the school are arranged on the same basis as that of the best graded schools in the New England States. The methods of instruction are thorough, normal and practical. Honest, practical men and women are what this country, at the present time, needs, and we believe, indeed, candor and facts compel us to say, that the Cheyenne Graded School is doing more to supply this want in the future than any other institution in the Territory. The highest branches of mathematics, the natural sciences as well as the classics are now being taught in the higher department of the school. The present Principal is the right man in the right place, having had fifteen years experience in teaching in some of the best schools at the East. When compared with other towns in the Territory, Cheyenne might well be proud of her brick blocks, her well-filled shops, her enterprising merchants, of the flocks and herds on her plains, and of her monies and credits in safes and banks; but there is no one thing of which she could more truly boast than of her Public Schools. In this direction Cheyenne, even to a casual observer, is the *banner town* of the Territory.

CHURCHES.

To a Baptist missionary is due the honor of holding the first religious service in Cheyenne. At the next, we believe, the Rev. Charles Gilbert, Episcopal of the diocese of Illinois, officiated, and the next, Father Kelley, a Romish Priest. Afterwards Dr. Scott, a Methodist local preacher, collected and organized a church and Sabbath school, and preached regularly on Sunday evenings at the City Hall.

The first church organization in Cheyenne was that of the M. E. Church, organized by Dr. D. W. Scott, a practicing physician and a local preacher, about the last day of September, 1867, and the M. E. Sabbath School, October 6, 1867. Both have continued to the present day. Church building completed September 1, 1871, and dedicated on the 23d of the same month; present value of church property, four thousand dollars. This church is in a very flourishing condition, with the Rev. W. F. Warren, Pastor.

On the 14th of January, 1868, Rev. Joseph W. Cook arrived in Cheyenne from Philadelphia, and on the 27th of the same month, at his request, about twenty gentlemen met at Kountze Bros. & Co.'s Bank and organized a parish. In consideration of the fact that St. Marks Church, Philadelphia, gave one thousand dollars to assist in building this church the parish here was named St. Marks Episcopal Church. A vestry was then elected consisting of Messrs. S. B. Reed, Col. E. B. Carling, T. J. Street, C. H. Aldin, Charles D. Sherman and Major J. D. Wooley. The vestry chose Mr. S. B. Reed as their warden. The missionary chose Col. Carling as Rectors warden. This organization went to work immediately and in earnest, and on the 23d of August following, a church building had been completed and was that day consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Randall. This was the first church building completed in our city. This church has ever been well sustained by our citizens, and is now in a very flourishing condition, with the Rev. Francis W. Hilliard, clergyman.

St. Mary's Catholic Church was organized in the spring of 1868, by Rev. Wm. Kelley; church building completed same year, at a cost of seven thousand dollars; church in a flourishing condition, with the Rev. John McGoldrick as present resident Pastor.

First Congregational Church of Cheyenne was organized June 13th, A. D. 1869, by Rev. J. D. Davis. House of worship was completed December 19, 1869; was dedicated December 19, 1869. The present value of church property is four thousand dollars; church in prosperous condition, with the Rev. C. M. Sanders, Pastor.

The Presbyterian Church was organized in Cheyenne by the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, February 1, 1870, and on the 17th of July following, a church building had been completed, which was dedicated for worship on that day. In the year 1874 this church erected a comfortable brick parsonage. The present value of this church property is six thousand dollars. The church is in a very flourishing condition, with the Rev. J. J. Cowhick, Pastor; A. C. Snyder, Elder; S. J. Scriber, Superintendent of Sabbath Schools, and A. H. Swan, W. H. Hibbard and A. C. Snyder, Trustees.

Nearly all of the fraternal and benevolent societies flourish prosperously in Cheyenne

A. F. & A. M.

Cheyenne Lodge No. 1, A. F. & A. M., was organized under dispensation of the Grand Lodge of Colorado, February 29th, A. D. 1868, and chartered by the same Grand Lodge October 7th, A. D. 1868, and re-chartered by the Grand Lodge of Wyoming December 16th, A. D. 1874. Has a present membership of ninety-two. J. K. Jeffry, W. M., and A. J. Parshall, Secretary. Regular communication first and third Tuesday evenings in each month.

Wyoming Chapter No. 1., Royal Arch Masons, Cheyenne, Wyoming, was organized January 6th, A. D. 1868, under a dispensation granted by THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER for the United States of America, chartered December 27th, A. D. 1869; has a present membership of fifty-nine; W. B. Trufant, H. P.; M. Apple, King;

J. S. Taylor, Scribe, and A. J. Parshall, Secretary. Meets regularly on the first and third Tuesday evenings in each month.

Wyoming Commandery No. 1, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR and KNIGHTS OF MALTA, Cheyenne, Wyoming, organized by dispensation granted March 15th, A. D. 1873, charter granted December 3, 1874. Present membership thirty-four. E. P. Snow, E. Commander; W. B. Trufant, Generalissimo; J. H. Nichols, Capt. General; A. J. Parshall, Recorder. Regular conclave first Friday in each month.

I. O. O. F.

Cheyenne Lodge No. 1, I. O. O. F., was instituted April 15, 1868, in Cheyenne; has a membership at this time of between sixty and seventy.

Allemania Lodge No. 5, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Cheyenne January 1, 1873; works in German language, and has a good membership.

Hope Encampment No. 2, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Cheyenne August 30, 1871.

Grand Lodge I. O. O. F. of Wyoming was instituted April 27, 1874, and now has nine subordinate Lodges in the Territory under its jurisdiction.

K. OF P.

Cheyenne Lodge No. 2, K. of P., was organized by W. L. Kuykendall, D. S. C., on the 9th day of January, A. D. 1875, by authority received from the Supreme Chancellor, with nineteen members. The Lodge has at this time a membership of sixty. Its meetings are held in the Odd Fellows' Hall, on Thursday evenings. The officers for the present term are: C. C., Thos. M. Fisher; V. C., W. Richardson; Prelate, Morris Appel; K. of R. & S., R. L. Shanks; M. of T., J. B. Sloan; M. of E., H. Leffer; M. of A., Joseph Lowe; I. G., C. S. Devoe; G., H. Claus. The aim of the K. of P. is to alleviate the suffering of a brother, succor the unfortunate, zealously watch at the bedside of the sick, sooth the dying pillow, perform the last sad rites at the grave of a Brother, offering consolation to the afflicted, and caring for the widow and orphan.

I. C. OF THE R. C.

Wyoming Encampment No. 1, Independent Champions of the Red Cross, was organized in Cheyenne October 8, 1875, by Rev. A. C. McDougal, Supreme Counsellor of this Society for the United States,. The I. C. R. C. has for its object that of a co-operative Temperance Society, with a Life Insurance fund attached, and has grown to a membership of seventy within one month. Officers: T. M. Fisher, Em. Commander; R. H. Dawson, Em. Counsellor; R. B. Durbin, S. C.; J. H. Triggs, Secretary; F. Vanocker, F. S.; Mrs. L. L. Fallen, Treasurer; Miss Hattie Selig, M. C.

I. O. G. T.

Cheyenne Lodge No. 31, I. O. G. T., was organized by authority of the Grand Lodge of Colorado in September, 1869; has now a membership of one hundred and fifty-one. The officers for the present term are: T. M. Fisher, W. C. T.; E. Milliard, W. V. T.; S. J. Scriber, W. S.; Hattie Tuttle, W. F.; J. C. Nobles, W. C.; Wm. Hardesty, P. W. C. T.; W. W. Lane, W. M.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

DELEGATE IN CONGRESS.

Forty-Third Congress—Hon. W. R. Steele.

TERRITORIAL OFFICERS.

Governor—John M. Thayer.
Secretary—G. W. French.
Chief Justice of Supreme Court—J. W. Fisher.
Associate Justices—Jos. M. Carey, E. A. Thomas.
United States Collector—E. P. Snow.
Surveyor General—Edward C. David.
Register U. S. Land Office—George R. Thomas.
Receiver of Public Moneys—I. C. Whipple.
Territorial Treasurer—A. R. Converse.
Territorial Auditor—O. North.

Commissioners of Penitentiary—F. L. Arnold, Charles Hutton, M. E. Post.

Territorial Librarian—John Slaughter.

Commissioner of Immigration—J. K. Jeffrey.

Superintendent of Instruction—John Slaughter.

United States District Attorney—E. P. Johnson.

United States Commissioner—J. W. Bruner.

Clerk 1st Judicial District—J. W. Bruner.

United States Marshal—Frank Woolcott.

COUNTY OFFICERS—LARAMIE COUNTY.

Commissioners—Geo. A. Draper, Chairman; L. D. Beary, F. Landau.

Sheriff—N. J. O'Brien.

Constables—W. Taylor, C. S. Devoe.

Justices of the Peace—Jno. Slaughter, T. M. Fisher.

Clerk and Recorder—George B. Stimson.

Treasurer—D. C. Tracy.

Probate Judge—D. C. Tracy.

Prosecuting Attorney—W. W. Corlett.

School Superintendent—F. W. Hilliard.

Coroner—Jas. Talbot.

Assessor—Ed. J. Morris.

CHEYENNE CITY.

Board Trustees—I. C. Whipple, President, *ex-officio* Mayor; John Nealon, John E. Davis, L. R. Bresnahen, Peter Hamma.

Clerk—W. Richardson, *ex-officio* Assessor.

Marshal—C. S. Devoe.

Treasurer—Isaac Bergman.

Attorney—T. J. Street.

Surveyor—A. J. Parshall.

Police Justices—John Slaughter, T. M. Fisher.

Meetings of the Town Trustees, Friday evening in each week, at the City Hall.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF TRAINS.

U. P. R. R.

Arrive from East.		*Depart West.*	
Passenger, - - -	1:10 P. M.	Passenger, - - -	1:35 P. M.
Emigrant, - - -	3:00 P. M.	Emigrant, - - -	3:35 P. M.
Freight, - - -	6:30 A. M.	Freight, - - -	7:00 A. M.
Arrive from West.		*Depart East.*	
Passenger, - - -	2:25 P. M.	Passenger, - - -	3:00 P. M.
Emigrant, - - -	8:45 P. M.	Emigrant, - - -	10:00 P. M.
Freight, - - -	12:30 P. M.	Freight, - - -	1:15 P. M.

DENVER PACIFIC.

Express arrives, -	12:15 P. M.	Express departs, -	3:00 P. M.

CHEYENNE TO LONGMONT.—U. S. MAIL STAGE LINE.

GEO. S. CATHERS, Proprietor.

Leave Longmont, Monday, 6:00 A. M. Arrive at Cheyenne, Tuesday, 6:00 P. M.

Leave Cheyenne, Wednesday, 6:00 A. M. Arrive at Longmont, Thursday, 6:00 P. M.

Leave Cheyenne, Monday, 6:00 A. M. Arrive at Longmont, Tuesday, 6:00 P. M.

Leave Longmont; Wednesday, 6:00 A. M. Arrive at Cheyenne, Thursday, 6:00 P. M.

The principal places along the route are, beginning this side of Longmont: Big Thompson, Ft. Collins, Laporte, Box Elder, Spotswood Spring, Lone Tree, and the City of Cheyenne.

CHEYENNE TO FORT LARAMIE.

Leave Monday and return Friday.

CHEYENNE TO SPOTTED TAIL AGENCY.

Leave Cheyenne Tuesday and Friday. Return Friday and Monday.

THE PRESS OF CHEYENNE.

The Cheyenne *Leader* was the pioneer newspaper of Wyoming, and the first paper published in this city. The first number was issued on the 19th day of September, 1867. N. A. Baker, founder and proprietor. It was a neatly printed six-column daily and a weekly of seven columns, eight pages. On the 1st day of April, 1870, this paper was purchased by H. Glafcke, Esq., who has since been its editor and proprietor. This paper, from its first issue in 1867, has been Republican in politics and devoted to the advancement of the best interests of the people, and is now one of the leading papers of the Territory.

The Cheyenne *Daily News* was started on the 10th of July, 1874, by Wm. M. Benton, who run it as an advertising sheet, with spicy and interesting locals, until November 1st of the same year, when Mr. T. Joe Fisher bought one-half interest in the same; after which the paper was run as a campaign paper in the interest of the Republican party during that fall. This paper is a five-column daily and has quite an extensive local circulation and support.

These two journals constitute the present press of Cheyenne; other papers which have started and died have been referred to in our chapter of events.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE EASTERN AND NORTHERN PORTIONS OF WYOMING TERRITORY.

This Territory is situated between the forty-first and forty-fifth parallels of latitude, and the one hundred and fourth and one hundred and eleventh meridians of West longitude, and contains an area of 97,883 square miles. Although lying immediately north of and contigious to Colorado, and like it, stretching across the great divide of the Rocky Mountains, in the character of its mountains and plains, it is very different from that Territory.

The mountains of Colorado are grouped in a rather compact series of ranges on one side, and its plains lie in one body on the other, and are of a uniform character; while the mountains of Wyoming are scattered in isolated ranges and irregular groups, and the plains are detached areas, unsymmetrical in form and differing in character. The divide between the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific, starting from the northwest corner of North Park and running northwest by Bridger's Pass and Separation Station on the U. P. R. R., crosses the comparatively low country to South Pass, whence it follows the Wind River Mountains to Mount Madison, where it leaves the Territory, passing out of the western border about thirty degrees south of its northwest corner. It divides the Territory into two unequal parts, the eastern part embracing more than three-fourths of the entire area. One portion of this eastern division is drained by the North Platte and its tributaries, the other portion by the Wind River, Big Horn, Powder River and other streams tributary to the Yellow Stone.

The chief arable tracts, which as a matter of course depend very much upon the water supply and drainage, are to be found in the following areas, named from the streams by which they are intersected: The Laramie Plains and Eastern Plains, as well as the Sweet Water section, all drained by the North Platte River and its tributaries: The Wind River or Big Horn district: The Powder River country, and the Black Hills district, which last is drained by the Belle Fourche and South Fork of the Cheyenne River. The district drained by the North Platte amounts to about 22,000 sqaure miles, and embraces nearly one-fourth of the Territory, and includes some of the most desirable portions of the arable land. This district is not only very irregular in its outline, but it bears the same varied and irregular character interiorly. The mighty convulsive force which heaved up these vast Rocky Mountain ranges seems here to have scattered the hills and mountains in wild confusion. In the eastern portion stretching north and south, is a range of rough and lofty mountains known as the Black Hills Range, which at its northern extremity is rent into fragments and scattered in decreasing peaks and ridges to the north. Along the southern border, or as we approach the Colorado line, turning in nearly every direction of the compass, are lofty ranges whose summits wear crowns of perpetual snow. Westward the mountain ranges trending northwest sink beneath the immense deposit of which here covers the mighty chasm; but they show themselves farther north in the granite peaks, which like islands, shoot up from the Sweet Water Plains, and farther on they emerge into the Wind River Range. Between these irregular surroundings lie the Broad Laramie Plains, which might appropriately be called the Great Park of Wyoming. But as we propose in this work to give only the actual resources of that portion of Wyoming tributary to Cheyenne, we will take only that portion of the region drained by the North Platte; known as the Eastern Plains. Under this head may be included all that part of the Territory lying east of the Black Hills Range. It includes in addition to the open plains the valley of the North Platte from the Red Buttes near the mouth of the Sweet Water River to the eastern boundary of the Territory, and the valleys of the numerous tributaries which enter into it between these points; also the valleys of Pole Creek, Crow Creek, and Lone Tree Creek tributaries of the South Platte.

This section contains about nine thousand square miles, of which about one-sixth or nearly one million acres can be irrigated and rendered suitable for farming purposes. This estimate of the arable lands may seem large, but recent explorations made by the Department of Agriculture, in which a careful examination was made of the volume of water sent down the North Platte and its various tributaries, and the amount of rainfall during the growing season fully sustains this estimate. Some idea of the general level and topography of this area can be obtained from the following list of elevations recently taken. Beginning at Red Buttes and following the Platte the elevations above the level of the sea are as follows: Red Buttes, 5,528 feet; five miles below the Old Platte Bridge, 5,252 feet; on the river bottom near Fort Fetterman, 4,970 feet; Laramie, 4,500 feet; at the mouth of Horse Creek, 4,395 feet. This shows that the entire fall from Red Buttes to Horse Creek, a distance of one hundred and sixty miles, is 1,133 feet or about seven feet to the mile. From Red Buttes to the Old Bridge, 18 feet to the mile; and from Red Buttes to Fort Fetterman, 9 feet per mile. The elevation of the Laramie bottom at the mouth of Chugwater is 4,500 feet; the Chugwater valley where the stage-road to Fort Laramie strikes it is 5,460 feet, and that of Cheyenne is 6,040 feet. These figures develop a fact of the utmost importance in estimating the agricultural resources of this part of the Territory. A fall of over 500 feet in sixty miles, with the volume of water found in this part of the river, during the irrigating season, together with an ample sufficiency of water for irrigating the numerous beautiful valleys along the streams tributary thereto, will afford the means of redeeming a very large area of land hitherto looked upon as a barren waste except for grazing lands.

The following description of some points along this river will give a general idea of its valley east of the mountains.

In the neighborhood of the Bridge on the south side of the river, there is a broad level bottom four to five miles wide, mostly covered with a rank growth of grass, mixed with tall weeds, showing the soil to be quite fertile and that it contains a fair proportion of vegetable mold. A short distance below Fort Casper a second level sets in, raised but a few feet above the first. This plain spreads out to some eight or nine miles in width, and is composed of a soil somewhat inferior to that of the bottom. Before reaching Muddy Creek the low rounded hills approach the river for a few miles, limiting the bottom to a mere strip. At Muddy Creek it again expands to six or eight miles in width, being covered in part by a very thick growth of greasewood. The little creek mentioned is very narrow, though deep in proportion to its width, and would furnish sufficient water to irrigate a considerable area. The soil is very fine grained with a marly appearance.

On the north side of the river for most of this distance the elevated plateau approaches quite close to the stream, and descending suddenly forms a line of bluffs 100 to 150 feet high. For some distance above Fort Fetterman there is a very pretty and quite broad valley, partly bottom and partly a low second level, which can be irrigated from the river at a very moderate expense and would make good farms. West of the Fort, Deer Creek and Box Elder flows into the Platte from the south. Taking their rise in the Black Hills they run constantly and afford sufficient water to irrigate the narrow valleys through which they pass. The principal hay for the Fort is cut from the valley of Deer Creek. Between Fort Fetterman and the Laramie River a number of streams rising in the Black Hills run east and empty into the Platte, the most important of which are, the La Bonte, Elk Horn, Horse Shoe and Bitter Cottonwood. The valley of the La Bonte, which is from two to four miles in width, is very fertile, the bottoms easily irrigated, and the supply of timber ample. Not only are the hills clothed with pines, but the valley at points is covered with heavy groves of Cottonwood, Willow, etc. Here is a splendid point for a small colony. Horse Shoe and Elk Horn Creeks traverse small, beautiful valleys, but as the supply of water is not constant, they cannot be depended upon for irrigating purposes unless the water is brought down in ditches from the point where they leave the mountains. The immediate bottom of the Bitter Cottonwood is rather narrow, but is flanked by a low second level of considerable breadth, so that the amount of land within reach of irrigation is fully equal to the supply of water from the creek. The valleys of the Laramie River, Sabile Creek, Chugwater and Horse Creek present the most desirable points for agricultural purposes of any along the east flank of the Black Hills. Already along the valleys of each of these streams has farming become a known success.

The valley of the Laramie River between the Black Hills and the Platte, together with that of Sabile Creek, will furnish an arable area of about one hundred and twenty square miles or 76,800 acres. With an elevation of about 1,500 feet less than Cheyenne, and 2,600 feet lower than Laramie City, and shielded from the winds by its elevated surroundings, it has a climate several degrees warmer than most of this section; and, with a rich soil and ample supply of timber, it is destined to be soon filled up when the tide of emigration turns towards this section of the Territory.

The valley of the Chugwater is about seventy miles in length with an average arable width of three miles, giving an area of about 134,400 acres. This valley, for the greater part of its length, is bordered by high rocky walls or steep bluffs; the bottoms are fertile and being quite low and level can be easily irrigated. The supply of water is sufficient during the season when needed, but it sinks at some points in the latter part of the summer and autumn.

Horse Creek, from where it rises in the Black Hills Range to where it empties into the North Platte, is about one hundred and ten miles in length, and together with its affluents furnishes a quite extensive and very beautiful valley comprising an area of about 220 square miles or 140,800 acres. The upper half of this valley especially furnishes a lovely field for the agriculturist, the bottoms being level and very fertile and accessible to a cheap system of irrigation. There is not a sufficient supply of water to irrigate the whole length of this valley on account of the water sinking all along the lower half. It is possible, however, that by making reservoirs along the little ravines, which at certain seasons of the year are filled with water, a sufficient quantity might be collected to irrigate a large portion of the lower part of this valley; thus, materially increasing the agricultural resources of this lacality. There are miles of the upper portion of this valley *now* fenced and under cultivation, constituting the most extensive and successful farming and stock-growing community in the Territory.

Lodge Pole Creek is an isolated stream rising near Cheyenne Pass in the Black Hills Range, and flowing with a moderate eastern descent through a somewhat narrow valley, bordered on each side by broad rounded ridges, empties into the South Platte at Julesburg, Nebraska; the whole length of this stream being about 200 miles, about 80 miles of which is in Wyoming Territory. The amount of bottom land is quite limited but is all the stream will irrigate, as the supply of water does not appear to be very constant. A canal, however, drawing off the water near the mountains, would probably furnish a larger and more uniform volume, and would perhaps irrigate an area of sixty thousand acres in this Territory.

Crow Creek rises in the Black Hills west of Cheyenne, and, running east a short distance beyond the city turns south and passes into Colorado and on into the South Platte. Although this stream is small, its proximity to the city of Cheyenne makes it important, and as stated in the beginning of this work, measures have been inaugurated to preserve and utilize all the water it can supply. It is a settled fact that the rainfall is increasing each year in this vicinity, and with sufficient water, the entire plains around this city could be irrigated and the land made to produce useful crops. We can safely estimate that the water supply of this stream under proper management, can be made available for the irrigating of sixty thousand acres of land within this Territory. Lone Tree Creek is a small stream rising in the Black Hills and running east within seven miles of Cheyenne, with a beautiful valley, but not affording sufficient water to be made available for any other purpose than stock water. The temperature of this Platte section varies considerably in its different parts, corresponding somewhat to the elevation and freedom from the prevailing winds. All the agricultural products which can be grown in other parts of the territories in this latitude can be raised here, such as wheat, oats, rye, barley, and hardy vegetables such as potatoes, onions, turnips, cabbages, peas, beans, etc.; and it is probable that in the valley of the lower Laramie and at some points along the Platte, Indian corn and hardy fruits may also be raised.

THE WIND RIVER, OR BIG HORN DISTRICT.

This district is drained by the Wind or Big Horn River, and its tributaries, and is situated between the Wind River Mountains on the west and the Big Horn Mountains on the east. Its length from Little Popoagie to the Big Horn Canon is about one hundred and seventy miles, with an average width of about one hundred miles. Wind River rises in the Wind River Mountains, and flowing southeast for about seventy miles, bends abruptly *north*, which is its general course thence to its exit from the Territory. The stream is called Wind River from its source to where it passes through the first range of mountains, north of which it receives the name of Big Horn River. Although this district is about one hundred and seventy miles in length, the valley of this stream, within this territory is about two hundred and forty miles in length, owing to this abrupt bend, and has an average width of about ten miles. The following are the principal tributaries which flow into the river from the north and west side, viz: The North Fork, Owl Creek, Grey Bull and Stinkingwater Creeks. On the south and east sides are the following affluents, to-wit: South Fork, Buffalo Bull Creek, Big and Little Popoagie Rivers, Beaver Creek, and No Wood River. The valleys of these streams and the main river, together with the numerous other tributaries, not mentioned, will furnish at least two and one-half million acres of arable land, and is the largest and most beautiful valley between the Missouri River and the Pacific Ocean. The banks of the river as well as those of the numerous tributaries thereto, are thickly covered with a growth of large cottonwood trees. The mountain sides adjacent to the valleys, abound in forrests of the finest pine. The soil of the valley is a dark rich loam, capable of producing all the crops raised on a Missouri bottom farm. The climate in the winter is very mild; snow never falls to a depth exceeding six or eight inches. This, as well as the abundance of game found in these valleys, has induced many of our old hunters, and several of our Indian tribes, to winter here year after year. No finer farming or grazing country can be found in the United States. Coal is found in abundance, and Petrolium has been found in places along the valley; and the mountains adjacent are rich in Gold, Silver and other valuable minerals. Here is undoubtedly one of the finest locations in the

Great West for a number of large colonies, being the nearest valley of importance to the great Yellow Stone National Park, which is soon destined to become *the resort* of tourist and wonder seekers from all parts of the earth.

POWDER RIVER DISTRICT.

This district, as will be seen by a glance at the map, is bounded on the east by the Black Hills—so much noted for their rich deposits of gold—and, on the west by the Big Horn Mountains, and extends from the Black Hills Range, near Fort Fetterman, or, from the 43rd parallel of north latitude to the north line of the Territory; being about one hundred and fifty miles square. Here is one of the finest landscape views the eye ever beheld, with mountains scattered in isolated ranges and irregular groups, and the plains in detatched areas, interspersed by a perfect net-work of the most beautiful streams and valleys, rich in mining, agricultural and pastural capacity, with all manufacturing facilities abundant. We ascend some lofty peak, and a world of mountain, valley, stream and plain surround us on every hand. We find points whence we may behold, at a single glance, the majesty, the fury, the gentleness, the beauty and the desolation spread before us like a vast immovable panorama. And right here, in the midst of the most imposing grandeur of Nature's handiword, are homes for millions, free homes, rich paying homes, where life, liberty, health and wealth can be enjoyed, in a pure atmosphere, by millions of poor denizens of the east, who toil from day-light until dark, year after year, in the differnnt branches of trade, mechanism or at common labor; or the farmer, to raise his little crop of wheat, corn or potatoes, or whatever it may be, upon which they barely support themselves and families. Here Nature has given us millions of acres of rich, alluvial soil, situated in the midst of one of the richest mining regions on the continent, where the products of a few acres, properly cultivated, are worth more than those of a large farm in some of the older states. Powder River rises in an isolated or detatched group of the Black Hills, between the main Range of the same and the Big Horn Mountains; and, flowing northeast for about eighty miles to old Fort Reno, where it bends directly north, which course it keeps, following near the line of the 106th meridian of west longitude to its exit from the Territory, thence on into the Yellowstone. As before stated, this stream has a perfect net-work of affluents, besides the North Fork flowing into it from the west and Little Powder River from the east, each of which are large streams, and drain a large area of beautiful country. The banks of nearly all the streams in this district, are thickly covered with a large growth of the finest cottonwood timber we ever saw grow in any part of the United States; and the hills and mountains adjacent are covered with valuable forests of pine and spruce. The valleys are broad, level and very fertile, yielding heavy crops of the finest native grasses, where millions of tons of hay can be made, each year, with only the expense of cutting and taking care of the same. It is generally believed that the rainfall in this district is sufficient during the growing season to produce good crops without the aid of irrigation; but even if this is not the case, there are abundant facilities for the very cheapet system of irrigating these valleys. The climate is mild and pleasant, the altitude of this district being lower than that of any part of the Territory. The district contains an area of at least three and one-half million acres of agricultural land, where can be grown all the crops that are raised in Iowa or Illinois. Coal is also found in abundance in many places throughout this district.

Tongue River is also in this district, having its rise in the Big Horn Mountains it gathers a large number of small streams which flow down its sides, through luxuriant and inviting valleys into one volume, and flows northward and pours itself into the Yellowstone River. This particular part of the country was passed over by Capt. Raynolds and Lieut. Maynadier, in 1859, and some very enthusiastic remarks about its beauty and fertility were dotted down; still there is yet a great deal to learn of the importance and value of this region.

THE BLACK HILLS DISTRICT.

The Black Hills country is much more extensive than that particular locality brought to the notice of the public by the recent exploration of Gen. Custer. It comprises the whole of the country, bounded on the east by longitude 103 degrees, on the south by the Sweetwater, Laramie and the Cache a-la poudre rivers; on the west by the Big

Horn and Wind rivers, and on the north by the Yellowstone river. This is really the country of the Black Hills; but embraced in it are several localities called "Black Hills." For instance, the "Black Hills of Laramie;" the "Black Hills of Powder River;" and the "Black Hills of Cheyenne River," the latter being the locality in which Gen. Custer made his reconnoissance last summer and about which there is so much speculation at the present time; and which we propose to comprise our *district* of the Black Hills, in our divisions of Eastern and Northern Wyoming.

This district is bounded on the south and east by the South Fork of the Cheyenne river, and on the west and north by the Belle Fourche or North Fork of the Cheyenne river, and the head-waters of the Little Missouri, and comprises an area of about one hundred and twenty miles square. About one-half of which lies in Wyoming, the other half lying in Dakota Territory. Inasmuch as a large portion of the American people are now particularly interested in obtaining correct and reliable information about this district of the Black Hills, we deem it prudent, in addition to our own knowledge, to compile such facts in relation to it as are known to be truthful, and gathered from trustworthy sources.

THE BLACK HILLS

lie between the 43d and 45th parallels of latitude, and the 103d and 105th degrees of longitude. Their form is elliptical, and according to Lieut. Warren's report of them "the major axis trends about 20 degrees west of north." The base of these hills is about 2,500 to 3,000 feet above the sea level, and the highest peaks do not exceed 7,000 feet. The eastern boundary line of Wyoming—104th parallel of longitude—runs about midway through the hills. The whole range of the hills lies in the forks of the Big Cheyenne river, which is the most important stream in that region. The north fork is called Belle Fourche, is thirty yards wide, and passes around the northern end of the range in a semi-circle, receiving the water from the greater part of the hills which flow into it from a great number of streams. It takes its rise far to the westward of this range, near the sources of the Little Powder river, in what is known as the "divide" between the waters of the Yellowstone and those of the Missouri. The South

Fork of the Cheyenne river is about one hundred feet wide, takes its rise in the same "divide," flows around the southern base of the hills, and also receives numerous tributaries which have their source in them. Those two streams unite about forty miles east of the Black Hills, forming the Big Cheyenne river, which pours itself into the Missouri some sixty miles above Fort Pierre. From either Fort Sully or Fort Pierre, in a due west direction to the Wyoming line, which runs through the center of the hills nearly, is a distance of 220 miles. on an air line. Formerly there was a road from Fort Pierre to Fort Laramie, over which the military and traders stores were freighted, and the distance fixed at three hundred and twenty-five miles. The road necessarily passed over the bad lands considerable of the distance. Any route followed from the Upper Missouri will encounter them. In the summer the heat is intense between the Upper Missouri and the Black Hills, the grass is not good for stock and is strongly alkaline. For these facts we are indebted to persons who have frequently passed over the route during the past twenty-five years, to officers of the army, and to the official reports of Lieut. G. K. Warren and Brevt. Brig. Gen. W. F. Reynolds, of the Topographical Engineers of the United States Army. The former of whom twice explored the country in 1855–6, and again in 1857–8, and the latter in 1859–60.

FORESTS OF TIMBER.

The Black Hills takes their name from the dark green appearance that the magnificent forests of pine, that cover their sides and tops, give to them. "I think it is safe to say," says Dr. Hayden, in his geological report of their explorations in 1859–60, page 3, "that at least one-third of this area (estimated at 6,000 square miles by him,) about 2,000 square miles or 1,280,000 acres, is covered with excellent pine timber. Now, the next question arises, how is the timber to be made availabe? At least four to six months in the year these streams (Belle Fouche and South Fork of the Cheyenne) are quite high. The logs can be cut and transported to the sides of these streams during the dry season, and when the streams are high, in the spring of the year, they could be taken down to the Missouri river with a good degree of safety and ease.

The Black Hills, which appear in the distance, and derive their name from their dark and gloomy appearance, contain an inexhaustible quantity of the finest timber, mostly pine, which will doubtless remain undisturbed for many years to come."

Gen. Custer, who visited the hills last summer, in his report also speaks glowingly of the supply of timber, and says: "The timber found consisted of many varieties, principally of pine, oak and elm. The pine is of suitable dimensions for being worked into lumber, and is met with in abundance on every hill-side."

Col. Forsyth, of Gen. Sheridan's staff, who accompanied the expedition, also corroborates the statement that a great abundance of timber exists in the hills.

The fertility of the soil in the Black Hills was noticed by Lieut. Warren, in 1858. Speaking of the valleys in that region, he says in his report of that year:

"In these mountain formations which border the great plains on the west are to be found beautiful flowing streams, and small, rich valleys covered over with fine grass for hay, and susceptible of cultivation by means of irrigation. Fine timber for fuel and lumber, limestone, and good stone for building purposes are here abundant. Gold has been found in places in valuable quantities, and, without doubt, the more common and useful minerals will be discovered when more minute examinations are made."

In the same report farther on, he says: "The country furnishes the means of raising sufficient quantities of grain and vegetables for the use of the inhabitants, and beautiful, healthy locations for their homes. The remarkable freedom here from sickness is one of the attractive features of this region, and will in this respect, go far to recompense the settler from the Mississippi valley for his loss in the smaller amount of products that can be taken from the soil. The great want of suitable building material, which now so seriously retards the growth of the West, will not be felt here."

He also says that these settlements in the Black Hills country cannot be agricultural to the same extent as those in the Mississippi valley, but must depend greatly upon the rising of stock.

Gen. W. F. Reynolds, who made a topographical survey of this region in 1859–60, says, in speaking of it in his report, page 7: "The whole region of the Black Hills is unquestionably destined, at no distant date, to afford homes for a thriving population. The mountains will furnish a sufficient supply of pine lumber for ordinary uses, and although timber is very scarce in the region as a whole (from Pierre to the Powder river), yet the Black Hills will fully supply this great deficiency in the districts immediately adjoining." His route from the Missouri river led him to the Forks of the Big Cheyenne, and then he skirted the northeast and north side of the hills. He describes them in his journal as a succession of mountain ranges with beautiful valleys between, the soil of which is rich and fertile, and covered with a heavy growth of grass. Groves of ash, oak, elm, and other varieties of timber are mentioned as being met with, fringing the clear, beautiful streams of water, putting down from the hills into the Belle Fourche. Between the forks of the Cheyenne very decided evidences of the existence of gold were found—page 14: but the prospecting was discouraged by him on account of danger from the Indians, and for fear of making the expedition a failure. "It was for these reasons that the search for gold was at all times discouraged," he says in page 14, "yet still it was often difficult to restrain the disposition to 'prospect,' and there were moments when it was feared that some of the party would defy all restraint."

These descriptions and discoveries were made of the Black Hills sixteen or seventeen years ago by reliable army officers, whose only object was to make truthful reports of the country, and were made under many disadvantages. The number of men each one had was small, and the danger from the hostile Sioux were not the only trouble they had to provide against.

Warren went north from Fort Laramie, via Red Buttes and Old Woman's Fork to South Cheyenne, and thence to Inyan Kara, where he was intercepted by the Sioux and compelled to retrace his steps. He went back towards Fort Laramie forty miles, and then "struck off to the eastward through the southern part of these mountains." "We completed our reconnoisance," he says, "along the eastern portion of these mountains, as far as Bear Peak."

Last summer Gen. Custer, with a well equipped expedition, penetrated southwesterly from Fort Lincoln, opposite Bismarck, and entered Northeastern Wyoming, on the northwest side of the Black Hills. He was seventeen days in reaching the Belle Fourche from the Missouri.

Gen. Custer says in his report of this expedition: "We found wild fruits, such as currants, strawberries, raspberries. gooseberries and juneberries, not only in wonderful profusion, but frequently the wild berry was of larger size and of more delicious flavor than the domestic species cultivated with such care in some of the States. The timber found consisted of many varieties, principally, however, of pine, oak and elm. The pine is of suitable dimensions for being worked into lumber, and is met with in abundance in every hillside.

The streams of water are very favorably adapted for employment as water power, usually having considerable fall and rapidity of current, with no evidence of being subjected to freshets.

Building stone of handsome appearance and durable character can be obtained in almost inexhaustible quantities. So far as we are to judge the winter is neither severe nor long, nor the snowfall great. Indians assured me that the grass in the Black Hills was fresh and green early in March. I believe cattle would not only find abundant feed in mid winter, but that they would require no shelter beyond that to be derived in well protected valleys.

GRAZING AND STOCK GROWING.

As a grazing region, it is generally admitted by Western Stockmen of experience, that Wyoming has no equal. Its superiority consists mainly in this, that the grass is more abundant and of better quality, the winters are milder, and the snow falls less in our sheltered valleys, then on the elevated and exposed plateaux further south. Good water is abundant in Wyoming, and the climate is such that herds of all kinds of stock keep perfectly healthy, and the increase is remarkably rapid and certain. Many have expressed the opinion that the stockgrowing industry of Wyoming is of more importance to her inhabitants than all her gold and silver mines, rich as they are. It is certain that the peculiar kind of grasses found here on our plains and hillsides are more nutritious than Ohio timothy or the best bluegrass of Kentucky. This bunch or gramma grass, peculiar to vast portions of our Territory, starts up early in the spring, reaches maturity in June, and then cures where it stands, retaining all its nutritive qualities and constituting the finest autumn and winter feed for stock that Nature has anywhere provided. It not only grows in the valleys, but covers the foot-hills and the bench-lands, and frequently reaches the mountain tops, thus furnishing unlimited grazing throughout the year on lands not availabe for other purposes. We know of no business, open to all comers, which offer such solid inducements as stockraising in Wyoming. With good management, the risks are few and the returns large. Men long engaged in the business assure us that the profits exceed four per cent. per month, thus doubling the capital in two years. To reap all the advantages of the business, and make it fully worth an enterprising man's attention, it is desirable to start with a herd costing from five to ten thousand dollars. Many, however, begin with less and succeed well. The business of Wool-growing, although yet in its infancy in this Territory is destined to become a leading interest. Accompanying these general facts, we give here with statistics, showing the extent to which this interest is carried on in this county. The following is a list of the leading stockgrowers, with their location, number and kind of stock, to-wit:

			No. Head Cattle
John Arthur,	located on	Bitter Cottonwood Creek,	450
C. Culver,	"	Horse Shoe Creek	800
B. A Shiedly,	"	" " "	2800
W. H. Workman	"	" " "	150
Coffey & Cuney,	"	Laramie River	2000
Thomas Hall,	"	" "	200
M. F. Jones,	"	Sabile Creek	800
Kent & Gueterman	"	" "	1000
John Leonwan	"	" "	250
D. H. Russell,	"	" "	200
A. H. Swan & Bro	"	" "	3200
Snyder & Wolfgen	"	" "	1400
Chas. E. Clay	"	Chugwater	120
Hunton & Bullock,	"	"	520
H. B. Kelley	"	"	1500
McFarland & Co.,	"	"	400
F. M. Phillips,	"	"	1200
John Philips,	"	"	130
W. W. Sawyer,	"	"	250
Richard Whalen,	"	"	250
W. R. Blore,	"	Bear Creek	350
O. P. Goodwin,	"	"	90
J. M. Wooliver,	"	"	300
John Boyd,	"	Richard Creek	200
S. George.	"	"	200
G. R. Straus,	"	"	170
Sturgis & Goodall,	"	Fox Creek	1500
M. V. Boughton,	"	Bear Creek	1500
Harvey Clayton,	"	Horse Creek	200
Creighton & Co·	"	"	5500
L. Davis,	"	"	170
Durbin Bros.,	"	"	1500
M. Fagan,	"	"	150

			No. Head Cattle.
J. Friel & Bro.,	located on	Horse Creek	400
Hugh Jackson,	"	"	100
R. Layton,	"	"	100
Loomis & Trimble	"	"	850
D. J. Lykins,	"	"	350
Maynard & Co.,	"	"	1450
Stout & Stewart,	"	"	80
D. S. Shaw,	"	"	320
Webb & Coffey,	"	"	1100
Mrs. E. E. Whitney	"	"	50
H. N. Orr,	"	Chugwater	1600
G. A. Searight,	"	"	5000
Wm. Rowland.	"	Muddy Creek	75
Mrs. F. C. Dickson	"	Pole Creek	50
Dowdell & King	"	"	330
E. Harkness,	"	"	120
David Lannon,	"	"	300
F. J. McMahon,	"	"	70
A. H. Reel,	"	"	350
F. Schwartz,	"	"	150
Jackson Abney,	"	Crow Creek	50
M. A. Arnold,	"	"	1200
Alfred Bishop,	"	"	100
R. B. Bishop,	"	"	120
J. M. Carey & Bro	"	"	5600
John A. Dial,	"	"	70
A. W. Haygood,	"	"	110
Lindermier & Co.	"	"	300
A. M. Rogers,	"	"	110
E. W. Whitcomb	"	"	1000
C. H. Terry,	"	Lone Tree Creek	120
Wm. Dolan,	"	Muddy Creek	90
Daniel Fallon,	"	"	50
D. C. Tracy,	"	Pine Bluffs	1200
David Trevett,	"	Cheyenne	130

			No. Horses & Mules.
J. M. Carey & Bro.,	located on	Crow Creek	200
Coffey & Cuney,	"	Laramie River	150
T. A. Kent & Co.,	"	Crow Creek	309
H. N. Orr & Co.,	"	Horse Creek	90
A. M. Rogers,	"	Crow Creek	40
A. H. Reel,	"	Pole Creek	60
C. H. Terry,	"	Lone Tree	100
D. C. Tracy,	"	Pine Bluffs	100
Mrs. E. E. Whitney,	"	Horse Creek	110
Durbin Bros.,	"	"	410
T. H. Stone,	"	Muddy Creek,	70

			No. Sheep.
Culver & Boughton,	located on	Muddy Creek	3000
Searight & Co.,	"	Pole Creek	3200
Converse & Warren,	"	Lone Tree Creek	2500
Hay & Thomas,	"	"	3000
Hulburt Bros.,	"	"	1000
Durbin Bros.,	"	Horse Creek	2500
Dyer & Schwartz,	"	Pole Creek	3000
M. E. Post,	"	"	6000
Sturgis & Lane,	"	"	3500

			No. Sheep.
Riner & Durbin, located on Crow Creek			1100
E. W. Whitcomb,	"	"	1200
W. L. Kuykendall,	"	"	1000
E. Duffey,	"	"	1200
L. R. Bresnahan,	"	"	800

This table only represents each individuals leading interest, each and all having a general variety of other stock; further, no stock of any kind is included which is under one year old. To this add the numerous smaller herds, together with the stock of the towns, and that owned by the freighters, as shown by the assessment roll, and we find that we have within this county, over fifty-five thousand head of horned cattle, more than thirty-five thousand head of sheep, and twenty-six hundred head of horses and mules. This number of horned cattle at twenty dollars per head, (a fair average valuation,) foots up to the enormous sum of one million one hundred thousand dollars. Thirty-five thousand sheep at three dollars per head, one hundred and five thousand dollars; and two thousand six hundred head of horses and mules at fifty dollars per head, one hundred and thirty thousand dollars, making a total valuation of cattle, sheep, and horses and mules now owned in Laramie county, Wyoming, of one million three hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars.

With the opening up to settlement of Northern Wyoming, the tide of emigration will pour into this Territory as it formerly did into California, and the impetus thereby given to our mining interest, stock-raising, wool-growing, and agriculture will give occupation to a large population and add wonderfully to the wealth of the Nation.

In short, considering climate, healthfulness, fertility, variety, and the abundance of our natural resources, and our locatian on the line of the great national thoroughfare, the Union Pacific Railroad, we know of no part of the Great West which excels Wyoming, the youngest child of Uncle Sam. It is, however, no place for drones or dandies, but for hard work, honest endeavor, and capital backed by brains, it offers a wide field, and guarantees a sure reward.

MINES AND MINING—OROGRAPHY.

In their course through the northwestern territories the Rocky Mountains form an *almost* continuons chain of great altitude; entering the northern bondary of the United States in latitude forty-nine degrees north and one hundred and fourteen degrees longitude west from Greenwich, they follow a general northwestern and southeastern course through Montana, Wyoming and a portion of Colorado. About thirty miles northwest of South Pass City, the main range of the Rocky Mountains, here called Sweetwater and Wind River Mountains, rises with its snow-covered peaks high above the surrounding praries and highlands. It is seen at a great distance, and breaks the monotony of the scenery very agreeably. Its general characteristics vary in no way from those of the Rocky Mountains in Montana on the one side, and of Colorado on the other. In a southeastern direction, however, towards South Pass and the Black Hills of the Laramie River, this range breaks off rather suddenly, and mountainous highlands, with low undulating hills form its continuation. These hills rise generally not more than five hundred feet above the streams and gulches, which, intersecting the country in all directions, descend very gradually. Some of the creeks flow north into Beaver Creek, a tributary to the Wind River, which, by the Big Horn, sends its waters to the Yellowstone; others running easterly into the Sweetwater are tributaries of the North Platte; still, others flowing in a southwestern direction into Green River and thence into the Colorado, reach the Pacific Ocean.

To illustrate the *hydrographical* features of this region by a very striking case we might mention the occurrence of two springs near South Pass, about twelve miles south of South Pass City; they are close together, but a few feet intervening between them, yet one of them sends its waters to the Pacific and the other to the Atlantic Ocean. After crossing the beautiful valley of the Wind River, a distance of about one hundred miles east of the main range, rises another quite distinct and high range known as the Big Horn Mountains;

then passing on east, we next behold the detached ranges and groups of the Powder River Black Hills; then the Panther Mountains, and finally, the Black Hills of the Cheyenne river, which extends beyond the eastern boundary of the Territory of Wyoming, the whole forming a beautiful panorama of mountan, valley, stream and plain, diversified in such a manner, that the inspiring grandeur kindles the drowsy adoration in our souls, and we involuntarily worship the Great God of Nature, who, through the mighty convulsive force which heaved up these vast mountains, seems here to have especially filled man's ideal of the grand and beautiful.

The geological formation of the mountains of Wyoming is very much the same as that of the other territories in the region of the Rocky Mountains. Although the mountains are more scattered into broken fragments of ranges and groups, yet in nearly all casses almost every stratra of the earth's crust have been exposed, and the mountains appear to be seamed with ledges of gold, silver and copper, and in many localities immense beds of iron ore are found. And the forces which have been acting upon these mountains for unnumbered ages, as frost, ice, and mountain torrents, aided by the decay of rocks, have broken down the veins or ledges and liberated the gold, leaving it distributed in the gravel, sand and soil of the valleys, and in the beds of ancient and existing streams. Owing to the extensive area occupied by this diversity of mountan and valley, Wyoming contains the largest consolidated area for placer mining of any state or territory in the United States. The forces requird for breaking up the rocks and ledges have been expended, and the work of the placer miner is rather to clean up or harvest what Nature has already mined for him. In this nineteenth century, mining has become an industry which calls forth the brain work of the inventor and scientist, and like every other enterprse, it is the object of the miner to leave old modes behind and strive for all that is good in the vastly improved and much improving new methods and appliances. The operations of Nature have been so vast, and so gigantic have been the deposits made by rivers and floods in this Territory, that the process of mining with the pick shovel and pan must be laid aside, and the more modern mechanical appliances brought to bear. As water was Nature's principal instrument in preparing these earth deposits, so, also, is water the surface or placer miner's great agent for breaking down and reassorting them. It is brought to bear directly upon the materials either with the momentum it acquires in falling from a considerable elevation, or, with the gentler force of a shorter fall as it runs down a sloping channel. The first is the *hydraulic process*, and the second is *sluicing*. The operation of the first is to break up and disintegrate, and of the second, to separate, assort and concentrate. In hydraulic mining, the two are necessarily connected and form one continuous operation. Water falling through pipes from a height of one hundred to three hundred feet, is delivered through nozzles in continuous streams against the base of a bank of earth. It undermines the bank—the overhanging masses falls to the base and are broken apart and loosened—the water penetrates every crack and pore—large boulders are thrown aside like pebbles—the whole mass is stirred and mingled, while the accumulated waters flow away down the slope, thick with sand and earth, leaving the larger boulders and the gold resting clean washed upon the surface of the bed-rock. For a successful operation of this process, there are two essential conditions: first, sufficient head or height and quantity of water; second, a rapid fall or slope from the base of the bank, so that the water will flow swiftly away, and carry the loosened gravel, sand and earth with it.

MINING DITCHES.

These water courses are made by diverting the streams from their natural course through ditches cut wherever possible into the earth of the hillsides and crossing rocky points and deep valleys by means of flumes, or better, iron pipes. The grade varies generally from twelve to eighteen feet to the mile. Formerly flumes were constructed on a large scale and at a great cost, but now large sheet-iron pipes are substituted with great advantage in durability and economy.

In addition to the first cost of a flume, it is very expensive to keep in repair and is liable to a great many accidents. It may be burned or blown down, and if left dry for any great length of time the boards will curl up and split so that they cannot be used again. For these reasons flumes are not now constructed where they can possibly be avoided, and iron pipes are substituted. These pipes are made of stout sheet iron or boiler iron, and vary in size from six to forty inches in diameter, according to quantity of water to be carried. The distribution of the water to the hose pipes is generally by a side iron pipe leading from the main pipe or reservoir, and connecting at the bottom with a strong cast iron box. This box is provided with openings in different directions to which the smaller pipes are fitted; and these again connect with flexible canvas hose. They terminate in brass nozzles with orifices from one to three inches in diameter. As a labor saving process, the results of this method compare favorably with those attained by machinery in the various departments of human industry where manual labor has been superceded. With one pipe of an inch and a half aperture and a head of one hundred feet, a boy can excavate and wash as much auriferous earth in one day as could fifteen men without its aid.

From measurements made it is estimated that with a head of sixty feet and a pipe one and a half inches in diameter over one thousand bushels of earth can be moved and washed in a day. This estimate being correct, earth which contains only the twenty-fifth part of a grain of gold, or about two mills worth in a bushel, will pay two dollars a day to a pipe. But as all calculations of the richness of auriferous earth are estimated by the pan, it might be well to state that a pan of earth is about one-fourth of a bushel, or one peck measure; and we here especially invite the reader's attention to the following facts in relation to the value of the vast earth deposits, filling all the valleys of Northern Wyoming, comprising millions of acres which contain from one half cent to the pan, or two cents to the bushel of earth, to one dollar to the pan, or four dollars to the bushel. The valleys of several streams in the Black Hills have been prospected during the past summer, and not one of those valleys have yielded less than one cent to the pan, and that from the surface or grass-roots down to the bed-rock, which has only been reached in very few places, and when reached, the earth yields from twenty-five cents to three dollars per pan. Not only is the earth of the valleys rich in gold, but the earth of the hillsides adjacent to those valleys in nearly all portions of this region of the Black Hills contains gold in paying quantities when worked by the hydraulic process, which process can be worked more cheaply on the hillsides (as a general thing) than in the valleys, as any required fall can be obtained without expense. The existence of mines of wealth within the Black

Hills is not a latter day fancy. Tradition for long years back, kept alive by traders, trappers, and Indians themselves, has pointed to these famous Hills as a place where golden dreams would surely be realized. Strange stories were circulated among the Spanish settlers of Mexico more than a century ago, of the gold that existed in the "Black Hills of the Yellowstone."

In 1838 Father DeSmett, the celebrated Jesuit Missionary and a man of superior scientific attainment, had ventured out across what is now known as the State of Kansas, to Taos, in what is now known as New Mexico. From there, with one or two companies, he went northward, among the Indians, to the Missouri and Yellowstone, visiting the Black Hills country. It is well known by several persons, that at the time when the reported discovery of gold in California was made throughout the United States, he had returned to St. Louis from the Rocky Mountains and he received the reports readily giving as the reason of his belief in their truth that he had traveled over a great portion of California on his mission, in years before, and that he was entirely satisfied from what he saw and learned that it was a rich gold country. He then stated that he knew a locality in the Rocky Mountains so rich in deposits of the precious metals, that, when discovered by the whites, if it ever should be, would eclipse California and astonish the world with its greatness. But he kept the secret well, never gave any one to understand the probable location of these mines. Those who knew his truthfulness and simplicity never doubted the truth of his story.

In 1862 the late Bishop O'Gorman, of Omaha, said to Father De Smett in talking of the gold discoveries on Salmon River and its tributaries: "Are these the mines you know of, Father?" He answered, "Oh, no! but I fear it will not he many years now until they will be discovered" He then told the Bishop the circumstances about his discovery, his warning to the Indians, how reckless the whites were, and to what lengths they would go for gold, its uses, etc., and that they would be crowded from the locality if the whites learned of its whereabouts. Many people have tried to locate these mines, and every one have fixed upon the Black Hills country as the locality. At old Fort Pierre, on the Missouri, occupied a long while as a trading post, nuggets of gold were frequently offered for sale by the Indians. At Fort Laramie too, nuggets of gold ranging in value from three dollars up to thirty dollars, were sold by the Indians as late as 1865, and we, personally, purchased over eight hundred dollars of the same during the years of 1864–5 from the Sioux Indians while at that Post. The Indians having this gold were always from the Black Hills country. Hence it is a settled fact with old pioneers, without a single exception, that this will prove, when developed, the richest country on earth; and this opinion is substantiated by the desperate manner with which the Indians have resisted the whites coming into or even passing through this portion of the country. Hundreds of the early pioneers of the Rocky Mountains have lost their lives in attempting to prospect this region; and the Fort Phil. Kearney massacre in 1866, and the abandonment by the Government of all Military Posts in this region in 1867, was the final barrier to the development of this part of the country. Of one thing all persons may rest assured, and that is, that there are no persons living who have prospected that country for mineral wealth, and give as the result of their labors the belief that no gold mines can be found there. On the contrary, many persons are now living who, from hurried and imperfect prospecting there in certain localities, are firmly convinced of the existence of good paying mines. There have been some explorations of these hills, in times past, by order of the War Department, and these were conducted by men competent to speak.

In September, 1857, Lieutenant G. K. Warren, of the Topographical Engineers of the United States Army, made an exploration from Fort Laramie north to Inyan Kara Mountains, on the west slope of the Black Hills. Here he was met by a body of the Sioux and prevented from going any further in that direction. He retraced his steps for some distance, and then turned to the southeast, through the southwestern portion of the hills, to the south fork of the Cheyenne, and then he bore away to the junction of the north and south forks of that river. He went out to see the country and to report what he saw. Among other very interesting things of which that officer gives account are the following: "The Black Hills, or more properly mountains, lying between the forks of the Cheyenne on the 44th parallel, between the 103d and 105th meridians, cover an area of 6,000 square miles. Their bases are elevated from 2,500 to 3,000 feet, and the highest peaks are about 6,700 feet above the ocean level. The different rocks which compose these mountains, are:

1. Metamorphozed azoic rock, including granite.
2. Lower Silurian (Potsdam sandstone).
3. Devonian.
4. Carboniferous.
5. Permian.
6. Jurasiic.
7. Cretaceous.

* * * * * *

The highest mountain masses, such as Harney's Peak on the east side, are all granite; the rocks, as seen at a distance, appearing in the same unmistakable form as those on the Raw Hide and Laramie Peak, namely, coarse granite or gneiss, standing in layers and slabs, indicating a vertical stratification. * * * *

"In these mountain formations which border the great plains on the west, are to be found beautiful flowing streams, and small, rich valleys covered with fine grass for hay and susceptible of cultivation by means of irrigation. Fine timber for fuel and lumber, limestone and good stone for building purposes are here abundant. *Gold has been found in valuable quantities,* and without doubt the more common and useful minerals will be discovered when more minute examinations are made."

In the month of July, 1859, Captain W. F. Reynolds, of the Corps of Topygraphical Engineers, under orders from the War Department, penetrated from Fort Pierre, on the Missouri, to the Black Hills. He explored the northern and northeastern portion of them, and then wended his way to the Powder River, Yellowstone and Big Horn countries. In his report, on page 14, under head of "Mineral Products," he says: "Very decided evidences of the existence of gold were discovered by us in the valley of the Madison and in the Big Horn mountains, and we found some indications of its presence also in the Black Hills, between the forks of the Cheyenne. The very nature of the case, however, forbade that an extensive or thorough search for the precious metals should be made by an expedition such as I conducted through the country. The party was composed in the main of irresponsible adventurers, who recognized no moral obligation resting upon them. They were all furnished with arms and amunition, while we were abundantly supplied with picks, and carried with us a partial stock of provisions. Thus the whole outfit differed in no essential respect from that which would be required if the object of the expedition had only been prospecting for gold. The powder would serve for blasting, and the picks and shovels were amply sufficient for the primitive mining of the gold pioneer, while the arms would be equally useful for defense and in purveying for the commissariat. It is thus evident that if gold had been discovered in any considerahle quantity, the party would at once have disregarded all the authority and entreaties of the officers in charge and have been converted into a band of gold miners, leaving the former the disagreeable option of joining them in their abandonment of duty or of returning across the plains alone, through innumerable perils. It was for these reasons that the search for gold was at all times discouraged, yet still it was often difficult to restrain the disposition to "prospect," and there were moments when it was feared that some of the party would defy all restraint.

Prof. F. V. Hayden accompanied the expedition of Lieutenant Warren in 1857, and that of Captain Reynolds in 1859–60, in the capacity of geologist. In his report of the Black Hills and their geological formation, he corroborates the report of Lieutenant Warren as to the formation of those hills or mountains, and borrows largely from Warren's report in many particulars descriptive of that country.

Joseph S. Wilson, Commissioner of the General Land Office for about twenty years, and a man who had good opportunities to learn all that could be known about the Black Hills, says in his report to the Secretary of the Interior, in 1868, on page 46: "The country in the vicinity of the Black Hills is believed to be rich in ores of gold and silver, but has been so little explored that nothing entirely reliable in regard to the same is known; this being the fact also as to many other mountaineous regions of the Territory (Wyoming) where, reasoning from analogy, it is supposed these metals will be abundantly found. Gold is known to exist on the Powder and Big Horn Rivers. In the Sweet Water country, gold quartz is found in excellent quality, of a high vitreous nature, free from base metals, the ledges being well defined.

* * * * * *

"The northeastern section of Wyoming is said to be very rich in deposits of gold and silver, also the central portion, of which, however, little is known."

To the foregoing add the testimony of General Custer, Colonel Forsyth, Wagon Master Comer, miners Smith, Ross and McKay, who all say that they saw the gold that was dug out of the earth up there in July and August of the present year.

DOES GOLD EXIST IN THE BIG HORN MOUNTAINS?

We answer, yes! That it exists is a known fact. But whether in paying quantities or not remains to be demonstrated by the miner. Many persons have found gold there, while some parties have reported the existence of paying placer diggings. The Indians were always the obstacle to prospecting parties; drove many out, and murdered others. The massacre of Colonel Fetterman and ninety-six soldiers in 1866, at Fort Phil. Kearney, and the surrender of the forts in that country in 1867 and '68, have deterred the prospector from continuing his search for the paying diggings, until now.

As early as 1869, Lieutenant Maynadeer wrote of that country in his report of his explorations, the following: "The valley of the Yellowstone offers the greatest advantages of any part of the country explored. It is fertile enough to yield generously to the farmer, and the capacity of the hills for grazing is unlimited. It is the paradise of the Indian, and in every direction it is marked by the track of vast hordes of buffalo, antelope and elk, which subsisted upon it. This will apply to the Yellowstone from the mouth of the Big Horn River to the mountains. Nearly all the country inside the curve of the Big Horn Mountains is also of this description. There is every reason to believe that the mineral wealth of the mountaineous portion is very great. I purposely discouraged any desire among those under my command to search for gold but in several instances small quantities of the sands of some of the streams were washed and found to yield gold. Moreover, the geological features of these mountains are precisely similar to those of California and the neighborhood of Pike's Peak, which abound in gold. But it is hardly probable that the gold could be obtained profitably, except by large outlays of capital, and concerted operations of organized companies."

FATHER DE SMET AND HIS STORY ABOUT GOLD MINES.

This celebrated Indian Missionary was born at Dendemonde, Belgium, on the last day of December, 1801, and died in St. Louis, May 23, 1873. He came to America in 1821, and, having joined the order of the Jesuits, commenced his labors among the Indians in the year 1838. After visiting the Pottawattamies in the then Territory of Wisconsin, in company with two other Jesuits he penetrated across the plains to Taos, in what is now New Mexico. After a short rest here, he and his companions went northward in the fall of that year, passing, as he said, here in 1868, over the present site of Cheyenne to the Sioux country, visiting the Black Hills, the Big Horn and Yellowstone country and the country on the Upper Missouri, and returning to St. Louis the following year. His trips to the Rocky Mountains afterwards were prolonged to two and three years, and he would often go down the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean and visit the Catholic Missions and Military Posts in California and Oregon. He was an accomplished scholar in the sciences and a professor of botany, metallurgy, geology, etc. Everywhere he gained the confidence of the Indians, and was always revered and respected by them.

THE GOLD STORY.

In one of his trips among the Sioux Indians, before the discovery of gold in California, he promised a Sioux chief a present of a pistol, the use and deadliness of which he had been at some pains to explain. Accordingly having procured a vicious looking horse-pistol at one of the Fur Company's trading posts, and some powder and caps, on his return to the home of the Chief he redeemed his promise. The pistol was loaded with powder only, as the missionary purposely neglected bringing any bullets or lead, and was discharged several times to the great satisfaction of the chief and his friends. The use of leaden bullets was explained in connection with the powder, but the missionary had none and would not promise to obtain any. The chief bridged the difficulty by going away and returning after a short absence with a handful of yellow metal nuggets, which he requested to be made into bullets for the pistol. Upon examining them closely Father De Smet saw they were gold, and asked the Indian where he had found them. The Indian took him to the place and the missionary saw for himself. He then explained to the Indians the uses and great value of that metal among the whites; how eager they were for it; that they had crossed vast oceans and mountain ranges in search of it; dug down into the bowels of the earth for it; underwent untold hardships and sufferings in order to possess themselves of it; that there was no danger they would not brave, and no region they would not penetrate in order to find gold. He cautioned the Indians against making known the existence of gold in their country, as it would surely be overrun with worthless white adventurers, who would be brought in conflict with them, and promised to keep the knowledge of the location a profound secret. He did so. The Indians listened to his words with attention, and in subsequent conversations informed him that they knew of mountains of this yellow metal in their country. The missionary in alluding to this, supposed that the Indians had seen a large deposit of pyrites of iron somewhere in the mountains, which they considered the same kind of metal as the golden nuggets shown to him. No intimation was ever given to any one, by Father De Smet, of the locality where these nuggets were found, that we are aware of. But that he knew the locality no one who knew him for a moment doubted. He stated to the late Bishop O'Gorman, of Omaha, in that city on the last day of May, 1862, that he feared the whites would soon find out where these rich gold deposits existed, as they were gradually approaching them year by year. He was concerned for the welfare of the Indians in that event, as they would be crowded from their homes, plundered of their country, and be corrupted and destroyed.

As to the richness of these mines, Father De Smet stated in St. Louis in 1849, after the discovery of gold in California, that they would rival the gold mines of the Golden State whenever they were discovered.

When General Sherman addressed a letter to General Sheridan, asking, "What do you know about the Black Hills?" Sheridan's reply stated that, "properly speaking the term Black Hills embraced not only the Harney's Peak country in the contiguous corner of Wyoming, Dakota, Montana and Nebraska, but all the region from Long's Peak to Fremont's Peak, and from Emigrant Gulch in the Upper Yellowstone Valley, to the Judith Mountains of the Upper Missouri," or words to that effect; and that "prospectors were stampeding towards Harney's Peak, simply because the weakness of human nature makes man covet the things that are forbidden," and he dilated upon the vast expanse of country lying to the westward, reaching the main Rocky Mountain divide, which is free for all to come and go to and from. An Empire rich in all the precious metals and minerals, watered by the purest mountain torrents, stocked with fish, carpeted with the most nutritious grasses, sustaining countless numbers of game, fur animals and fish. A region renowned for its gold, silver and platinum, in the legends of the Indians, and from the specimens obtained by the Jesuit Father, explorers, traders and adventurers. We have, personally, panned gold on the banks of a hundred streams in the Powder River, Big Horn and Yellowstone countries; have seen there balls of magnetic iron ore, so strongly attractive that they were known as traveling stones; have seen wagon tires set at fires made from the croppings of coal veins, of thickness varying from five to forty feet; have angled up the devil fish from Father De Smet's Lake; and have pulled grass, the roots of which were masses of vegetable snakes.

The following dispatch from Prof. Jenney was received at the Interior Department July [illegible], 1875:

"CAMP ON SPRING CREEK, BLACK HILLS, DAKOTA,
July 17, 1875.

The Hon. E. P. Smith, Commissioner of Indian Affairs:

I have discovered gold in paying quantities in gravel bars on both Spring and Rapid Creeks, from twenty to thirty miles northeast of Harney's Peak. The deposits are the richest yet found in the hills and are very favorably situated. There is a good head of water in the streams, amply sufficient for working purposes. The gold is derived from quartz ledges of enormous dimensions in a belt of clay, slate and quartzites twenty miles in width, crossing the hills in a northeasterly direction. At this point the clay from the bed of the stream near camp yields from four to eight cents to the pan of coarse scale gold, and several pieces of about the value of a dollar have been found by the soldiers. I am engaged prospecting the value and extent of the region. About two hundred miners have deserted French Creek and followed me here. They are journeying into the hills from all directions, and offer me every assistance in prospecting the coast. No matter how valuable the mines may be, the future great wealth of the Black Hills will be its grass lands, farms and timber. The soil is deep and fertile, and the rainfall greater and more regular than that of any other region west of the Alleghany Mountains. That settles it, gentlemen! The only thing that remains to be done is to secure the right to occupy that country."

The inevitable miner, says Prof. Jenney, is "journeying into the Hills" from every direction which will soon settle the question of occupation. Legalizing this occupation must follow as a matter of course very soon, and then will follow an era of prosperity and rapid development of Eastern and Northern Wyoming, such as has seldom if ever been witnessed in the history of any country.

Captain Allen's letter will be read with interest by all who know him, and for the benefit of those who do not we vouch for his reliability and practical knowledge of mining.

JENNEY'S GULCH, 30 MILES NORTHWEST CUSTAR PARK,
BLACK HILLS OF DAKOTA,
July 26, 1875.

MR. J. W. ALLEN—*Dear Bro.:* We are all well and very busy getting ready to test "Stand Off Bar;" we are sure it will pay well; bed-rock pans from ten cents to one dollar—an average of twenty-five cents. We have developed a pay streak forty feet in width and are digging a good, substantial ditch to carry water for sluicing. I am sawing sluice timber and will be ready to do some practicable mining by the 30th of July; my private opinion is that it will pay from $10 to $20 per day to the hand. I can't see why men are leaving here without testing more of this gulch; it must be a gulch of forty miles in length; we are situated eighteen miles from its head, plenty of good water and good fall to the gulch. Mr. Floorman is finding good prospects twenty miles below us. This is a pretty rough country, with most beautiful timber. As far as this country has been prospected it is as favorable for rich gold deposits as Montana. No town site is in view anywhere yet—too much excitement and "horse-back" prospecting. I haven't the least idea as to how many men are in the hills; we, as a company, don't know anything but to work, and I think we can show you a heavy purse of gold before long. Ever your Bro.,

JNO. W. ALLEN.

P. S. I have panned out about an ounce of dust and given it to reporters and army officers. If we would allow the privilege of panning, everybody in the hills would give us a call; we tell them, "go in, boys," but when we get to sluicing, we will put our foot on that biz: J. W. A.

JULY 31st, 1875.

Since my letter of the 26th, we have all had orders to quit the hills until such time as the treaty is made, bnt through the kindness and good judgment of Prof. Jenney, Messrs. Carlin, Flarada, Brown and myself have been retained by him, (Prof. Jenney,) to assist the expedition in ascertaining, if possible, the richness of this great country and if there is no treaty made, we will come out by the middle of October, with the scientific party.

Yours, J. W. A.

SEPTEMBER 1st, 1875.

We had the pleasure of meeting at our office yesterday, several of the hardy pioneers who have just returned from the Black Hills, they having been ordered out by General Terry's forces, who insisted upon their leaving the Hills *at once*. Among the miners who favored us with a call, were Mr. J. N. Warren, well known to our people as one of the first who penetrated the Black Hills; Mr. Richard Irwin, Recorder of the Jenney Mining District, on French Creek, and Messrs. Rumpft and Moffit, of the latter district. All these gentlemen declare their readiness and anxiety to re-enter the now forbidden territory and to re-occupy their claims as soon as the country may be declared open for settlement by the government. They claim that the Black Hills are rich in all kinds of minerals, and that the country will support a large mining population.

From Mr. Irwin, we obtained the following items in regard to the Rapid Mining District, organized on the 16th of July, and of which J. J. Watts was chosen Recorder. Mr. Irwin says: "Several good bars have been prospected on Rapid Creek, and a lively time is expected in that district, as soon as miners shall have permission to work. One bar, about 600 feet long, is estimated by experienced miners, to contain over $200,000 worth of gold. Large and promising quartz ledges abound, most of them showing pyrites of iron and fair prospects of gold at the surface. Several bars have been located. There is a magnificent farming and stock-raising country on Rapid Creek, where it leaves the Hills and crosses the plains to join the Belle Fourche, and steps have already been taken to locate a town-site there."

THE BUCKEYE MINING DISTRICT.

Mr. T. H. Mallory, Secretary of the above district, accompanied by Messrs. D. S. Lunt, John Duffy, N. Kipp, Frank George, and H. Bishlinghoff of the same district arrived in Cheyenne a few days since. Mr. Mallory informs us that his party left Prof. Jenney early in July last, and crossed from Rapid Creek over to the northwest slope of the Black Hills, and although Professor Janney had predicted that no gold would be found in that direction, or outside of the "basin," the prospectors found a better field on the northwestern slope of the Hills, on a creek, the water of which flows into the Belle Fourche. The creek is about eighteen miles long, and along the entire length of it Mr. Mallory's party found prospects that averaged ten cents to the pan. They pronounced these as "ounce diggings," and being old miners, their report may be taken as authentic and reliable. Mr. Mallory says this district is by far the best discovered in the Hills. He was surprised when he returned to Rapid Creek for provisions, to learn that all the miners had left, and reluctantly his party followed the soldiers out of the forbidden country. The members of this new mining district propose to stop here and at Fort Laramie, awaiting the result of the negotiations with the Sioux.

An *Inter-Ocean* special from Fort Laramie, dated August 14th, states that at a meeting of the miners held in Custar City, on French Creek, resolutions were passed tendering thanks to President Grant, for the manner in which he caused his command to be executed. They say they are convinced that the Black Hills is one of the finest mining districts in the United States, and in obeying the command of the President that they do so under protest. The miners are nearly all leaving the Hills. Six men were appointed to remain on French Creek and preserve their claims until the Hills are opened for the miners who leave.

Spotted Tail and twelve of his tribe who have arrived from Spotted Tail Agency, accompanied by an Indian Agent, left French Creek today, to return to their Agency. The object of the visit was to see for themselves the value of the Black Hills. They now want more compensation for their territory, and also demand payment for the gold already taken out by the miners this summer, in addition to the purchase price expected from the government.

We call especial attention to the following letter. Having personally known Mr. Florman for nine years, we can safely say that no man in the west bears a better reputation for truth and veracity than does this substantial and reliable pioneer. He has spent fourteen years in the Rocky Mountains, principally in the Territories of Colorado, Montana and New Mexico, nearly all of which time he has been engaged in mining, and knows whereof he speaks.

CHEYENNE, September 18th, 1875.

MR. J. H. TRIGGS:—

Dear Sir:—In accordance with your request to give you some information of what I saw while in the Black Hills, I give you herewith a brief statement of facts regarding the presence of gold, etc. I arrived in Custar Park on French Creek, on the 14th of July last, and found several miners working their claims, but as yet in a primite and crude manner. Some of them, working with a Chinese Rocker, cleaned up from five to seven pennyweights of gold in my presence, the result of about three hours work. I prospected several places on this gulch, and got from one to five cents in gold to the pan of gravel. No one as yet had struck bed rock, consequently cannot say how rich the ground is, but in my opinion, judging from indications, the gulch will average not less than ten dollars per day to the man. The gulch has but one drawback, and that is water, which will be short in the latter part of the season. I also found several quartz ledges. I had no time to prospect them thoroughly but found fine gold in most of the croppings.

From French Gulch, I traveled north about fifteen miles, and struck Spring Creek; followed the same down ten miles and arrived at Prof. Jenney's camp. Prof. Jenney is the Government Geologist, sent out by the Department of the Interior to ascertain the mineral worth of the Black Hills. Here, like on French Creek, I found miners prospecting and opening their claims. The prospects on Spring Creek are by far better than on French Creek. I prospected several bars, where the bed rock was from one to twelve feet deep, and obtained from one to twenty-five cents to the pan, but have seen others get as much as one dollar to the pan. The gold is of a coarser nature than on French Gulch. No one has as yet struck bed-rock. In order to accomplish this it is necessary to run a drain ditch, which requires considerable labor; but when once completed, the golden harvest will be beyond all expectation. On this Creek I also found several veins of quartz, some of them very large ones; one vein claimed by John Robinson, is three hundred feet in width, and most of the quartz prospects rich in gold. Twenty-five miles northwest of this place I found the largest vein of gold quartz I have ever seen, being from 300 to 600 feet in width and traceable for over forty miles in length; the quartz is of a dark brown iron nature, much decomposed; found specks of fine flour gold in all I prospected. I also found a vein of white crystalized quartz about four feet in width, in which gold was plainly visible. I obtained some specimens, fabulously rich; one piece was sent to the Omaha Smelting Works, which assayed $42.000 to the ton. I found also several veins of brown iron quartz, which will yield $50 to the ton in ordinary quartz mills. Twelve miles north of Spring Gulch we find Rapid Creek, where the prospects are still better than in Spring Gulch. Castle Creek, the southern tributary of Rapid, is the richest so far found in the Black Hills. This creek has been more developed than the others;

one claim has been worked to bed-rock, in the channel, which paid six dollars of gold to one cubic foot of gravel. This I consider as rich as any mines found in Colorado, Montana, Idaho, New Mexico or Arizona. Several other gulches have been found, but I have not visited them, consequently cannot say anything about them—are reported rich. The area of the Mining District of the Black Hills is fifty miles from east to west, and seventy-five miles from north to south, so far discovered, but will likely extend still farther north.

The agricultural resources of the Black Hills cannot be excelled. Unlike all other portions of the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, this country reminds me more of Illinois and Ohio; the most beautiful parks man ever beheld, surrounded with the finest pine timber; rich black soil, the finest and tallest grass I have ever seen; the dews are so heavy that, in my opinion, with the rain fall, is sufficient to raise all kinds of grain, without irrigation. The fine grass and shelter and mild climate must assuredly make it the best stock-raising country in the United States. Now let us sum everything together and we find that the Black Hills country is not only an Eldorado, but also a land where the hardy farmer, stock-raiser and lumberman will find his expectations realized.

Yours, very respectfully,

ROBERT FLORMAN.

ST. PAUL, August 18th.

The Pioneer Press special from Bismarck, says: "That advices from the Bismarck Black Hills party have been received, which note their arrival in the Hills in sixteen days from Bismarck. The Indians attacked the party near Bear Butte. No lives were lost. The party report to have found gold in large and paying quantities, in French and other gulches; also, gold-bearing quartz in large quantities. Hundreds of miners are pouring in. The miners were ordered by Gen'l Crook to meet at the stockade in Custer's Gulch, August 10th, to make laws for the regulation of claim-taking, the miners then to leave the hills until a treaty was made with the Indians. The Indians will not treat until all the miners depart. Great excitement exists. All the gold-bearing lands yet discovered have been staked out and claimed. A nugget was taken from Custer's Gulch weighing

$18. Thirty to fifty dollars per day has been taken from that gulch. Jenney found one nugget weighing $36. Our citizens place implicit confidence in these statements and reports.

Col. Stanton, United States Paymaster for troops in this District, who has been as far north as the Crow Peak of the Black Hills, reports that the most sanguine reports about the mineral resources of the country have not done justice to it. Gold is everywhere found in abundance, and when the miners can go to work without fear of being interrupted by the Indians or blue coats, they will produce the precious dust in paying quantities. Col. Stanton says that he saw Gen'l Crook, himself, panning out one pan full of dirt and realized seventy cents from it. That evidently convinced the Commanding General that there *is* gold in the Black Hills in paying quantities."

JULY 15, 1875.

The Chicago *Tribune* until recently has denied the existence of gold in the Black Hills, but now admits that gold is found there in "paying quantities." Its correspondent says in his last letter:

"Spring Creek has now upon its banks at least 400 miners, while Rapid and Box Elder, which is the north fork of the Rapid, may safely claim as many more. The Burnt Wood District, comprising the south fork of the Rapid and its small tributaries, contains about 100 people, and at least 400 have gone north to Bear Lodge and the small streams emptying into the Belle Fourche. Then there are small parties straggling into the Hills from every direction; in illustration of which fact, I will mention that Capt. Samuel Munson, of the Ninth Infantry, in coming from Spring Creek to Camp Kearney met forty-two miner's wagons on the road to this Camp. He stopped at a miner's prospect hole, and, after exchanging the compliments of the day, proceeded to fill a pan with dirt taken out of the bottom of the pit, and carefully washed it out, and was not only surprised, but delighted to find what he estimated to be worth $1.50 of coarse gold. Your correspondent will here state that his personal knowledge of this gentleman warrants him in commending this statement with the utmost confidence in its truthfulness.

A ledge of gold and silver bearing quartz has been found on the Box Elder Creek, specimens of which have been brought to this

Camp. Many reports of gold lodes having been found bearing quantities of rich metals, continue to come in, but not from reliable sources, and are, therefore, not worthy of mention. The miners are doing little or nothing on their claims but to squat down and watch them; and, as such conduct has excited both the curiosity and comment of outside observers, your correspondent has spared no pains to learn the reason of so much inactivity. This has not been an easy nor an entirely satisfactory task, but so much has been learned; that the miners are organizing into bands or societies, the members of which are required to make oath that they will not reveal any discoveries to others than those of the brotherhood, and as they are liable to be driven away from the gold fields any day, they bind themselves not to develop their claims any more than enough for the personal knowledge of their wealth, and for the purchase of the necessaries of life, until the country is opened by the Government. They reason that, the publicity of their mining discoveries would endanger their possession of rich claims, if they should prove unable to remain near them; and that it has become necessary to organize societies with a Masonic outline, for mutual protection. These are facts that need no further explanation, and they are only mentioned because they are facts. There are no substantial reasons for believing that all the miners will thus organize; and while many are coming in, some are going back disappointed. The gulches on Spring, Rapid, and Box Elder Creeks promise well, and Prof. Jenney is confident that they will pay to work; for there is no reason why it will not pay to mine when you can wash from five to ten cents out of one pan of dirt. It is said by many that the average to the pan is greater than this, but experience will not warrant the statement on this occasion. Let the quantity be what it may no more discoveries are needed to flood the Hills with miners and actual settlers. The salubrity of the climate, the abundance of timber and grass, all offer advantages superior to the treeless plains, and it only requires the magic support of the Government to transform these silent parks into beautiful farms and villages. The weather is deliciously cool, and berries are ripening fast. The country aside from the precious metals, is superior to any that I have ever seen or heard of between the Missouri River and Central Oregon. Excellent timber in the greatest abundance, as fine pasturage as I ever saw; rich black loam soil, splendid water, showers every few days since we have been here; no disagreeable winds, a delicious bracing atmosphere to either work or rest in; a splendid diversity of hill and valley, prairie and timber, presenting a landscape of which the eye never tires, are a few of the prominent features of the Black Hills. Small grain and hardy vegetables would undoubtedly yield a rich return for the labor of cultivation.

The foregoing is about all I have to write this time, and as the boys are packing for our trip, to prospect the small gulches tributary to Spring Creek, I must close. I will mention the fact that I have prospected and explored as far north of Castle Creek as the travel goes, about thirty-five miles from here."

G. H. ABBOTT.

Prof. Jenney and party arrived in Cheyenne on Saturday, October 16, 1875, after having spent the summer exploring and prospecting the Black Hills. The Professor gives a very interesting and very encouraging account of that country. The gold-bearing belt of the Harney Peak district, which is nearly all in Dakota, is about fifty miles long, and will average twenty miles wide. The diggings prospected are not extraordinarily rich, but will pay good wages, and are what California miners designate as poor man's diggings, and will pay from four dollars a day upward. The country is well watered, climate delightful, mountains covered with forests of pine, hills covered with nutritious grasses, and the valleys lovely and fertile. There is a greater extent of agricultural and grass land than any one has previously supposed.

The Bear Lodge District is all in Wyoming Territory, and while not as extensive in area as the Harney Peak District, indicates richer deposits of the precious metals. The agricultural and pastoral advantages of this section are greater than any one had heretofore supposed. Wild fruits of different kinds were found in great abundance. White birch, oak, ash, and some other hardwood variety were found here in great plenty. The gold found was of a very fine quality assaying 993 fine, and worth $19.43 an ounce in coin. It is the opinion of the Professor that the gold diggings are sufficiently rich to furnish employment for labor and capital for years, which will result in developing the other resources of that country.

VALUE OF THE BLACK HILLS TO THE INDIANS.

Prof. Jenney in reply to the question, "are the Black Hills worth seventy million dollars," answered, "not to the Indians. They do not live there. and there is no evidence to show that they have ever made that country their home. It is worth to them about three hundred set of tepee poles, perhaps three hundred deer, and twenty cords of wood, per year." Just think, that a few Indians who have the same right to the country as the Buffalo and Deer, and produce no more, occupy a country which contains gold enough to pay off the National debt, and whose valleys and hill-sides would support thousands upon thousands of our white pioneers, who would develop the country and add Wyoming to the galaxy of States, the brightest gem in the constellation.

Colonel Dodge and part of his staff arrived here October 18, 1875, and left for Omaha in the afternoon. Col. Dodge reports meeting California Joe, with forty men, the advance guard of a party of four hundred, near the South Cheyenne, on their way into the Black Hills. Miners seem to be going in from every direction. There is no longer any doubt but thousands of men can make from three to ten dollars per day with such appliances as pan and sluice. The Harney Peak gold belt, as established by Prof. Jenney, is forty miles long by twenty in width. Col. Dodge and his officers all agree in pronouncing the country rich in gold, as well as in grazing and agricultural advantages. We predict that ten thousand men will be in there by the time spring is well open.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS.

It has been necessary to delay the publication of this work until this late date, December 20, 1875, in order that we might give to the reader all possible information relative to the development of the mining interests of the BLACK HILLS, as well as the action of Government in regard to allowing the same to go on. We would state here that the military authorities have ceased hostilities to the miners and they are rushing in from all parts of the country, and about five hundred men are now there working their mines successfully. Not only are the exceedingly favorable reports coming in of miners making from five dollars to thirty and forty dollars per day to the man, but the gold itself is being shipped in to Cheyenne by the ounce daily, and is of a very fine quality. Several nuggets worth from fifteen to thirty dollars, have been taken out, and nuggets worth from three to ten dollars are quite common "takes." The best mines are now said to be on the west side of the Hills, which makes the distance from Cheyenne less than if it were necessary to go around to the east side via Custer's Park. This we believe to be a reasonable fact, as when you leave the Black Hills going west you strike at once into the immense placer beds of the Powder River country, which extends clear on to the Big Horn Mountains, and which every western man of experience believes to be the real Eldorado where the most marvelous Golden dreams will be fully realized. The reports of rich gold fields in the Black Hills, which have heretofore been so much discredited, have now become well established facts; and it will only require a short time until, by a more thorough prospecting of these Hills, together with the extensive mining region immediately west, the Nation will be astonished by their richness.

We will now close this chapter by pledging to the reader our honor that we personally know whereof we speak, and that we have stated only that which can safely be relied upon.

COAL, PETROLEUM AND IRON.

Wyoming is already well known as the coal region of the West. More than one-half the surface of our Territory is underlain with beds of bituminous and lignite coal of splendid quality, a great many of which are of almost fabulous thickness. A brief sketch of the coal developed along the line of the Union Pacific Railroad, will give some idea of the vastness of this resource. Going west over the line of this road, the first important developments have been made at Carbon. Here we find the coal measure comprising eleven distinct veins of coal varying in thickness from a few inches to twenty feet. These mines have been worked very extensively since 1868, and have already yielded their hundreds of thousands of tons of this valuable fuel. In the Bitter Creek or Green River valley, we find twenty-one veins ranging in thickness from four inches to over thirty feet; here and at Carbon are the chief places of operation of that wonderful "power in the land," "The Wyoming Coal Company," one of the relics of the Credit Mobilier. The principal mines of this valley thus far are at Rock Springs, Van Dike's, Black Buttes and Hallville. Notwithstanding the fact of the Wyoming Coal Company's contract to furnish the U. P. R. R. with all the coal they require, some private parties have operated quite successfully in supplying coal to markets along the line of the road—as the Blair Brothers at Rock Springs, who have made a respectable fortune. At Green River City are found immense mountains of Petroleum Shale of remarkable richness, and works are now being erected at a cost of fifty thousand dollars for extracting the oil from this shale, which will prove an enterprise of no mean importance to our territory. At Evanston, Wyoming, we find the Rocky Mountain Coal Company working some of the most immense mines yet developed in the Territory. The coal measure in this, the Bear River valley, comprises sixteen veins, one of which reaches the enormous thickness of seventy feet, and new discoveries of the greatest importance are being made every month as will be shown by the following extract from the Omaha *Bee*, of August 29, 1875:

"The future of this great Territory cannot be correctly conjectured, for every month adds a new mine to the vast aggregate of wealth which has been already discovered. Coke for the smelting works of Utah and Nevada is now imported from Pennsylvania at a cost for freight of $30 per ton, because no western mine had been discovered that would give good coal for cokeing. This new discovery fills the gap. It has been assayed at the assay office in Salt Lake and pronounced "all wool and a yard wide." Prof. Pontez, geologist and mineralogist for the U. P. R. R., has investigated it and says it is superior to anything in the United States. He is now engaged in mapping the region. The Central Pacific is now sending out engineers to examine into the expense of building a road to the mine, with a view to purchasing the right of working it. What seems the most marvelous is the vast thickness of the numerous veins, one of which is seventy feet thick, another sixty, next one forty, and so on ending with the sixteenth, which is the thinnest, being twelve feet thick. These veins are interlaid with a very fine quality of white sandstone, which is a beautiful article for building purposes. The veins are exposed for miles, and lay one on top of the other at an angle of about 22 degrees, which will greatly facilitate the working of the mine. The Union Pacific and Central Pacific will, in all probability, find it to their interest to build tracks to open up this region. Undoubtedly this is one of the most valuable and extensive deposits of coal in the world. Mr. Crocker, of Logan, Utah, has the honor of being its discoverer. Mr. James Slater, of Evanston, has an extensive interest in the mine. We would like to be in Mr. Slater's shoes. The mine which is known as the Mammoth Mountain Coal Mine, is eighteen miles northwest from Carter Station, and about thirty-five miles from Evanston. Ovens for cokeing the coal are now being erected."

In this locality THE OIL REGIONS OF WYOMING are situated, and they will yet supply the West with an oleaginous article of home production. There are many places where the indications are stronger than at any point in Pennsylvania. Twelve miles east of this city Judge White sunk a well from which, he informed us, he had already sold $3,000 worth of oil, and he says that from one spring five miles north of Aspen, a half barrel of oil bubbled to the surface daily. Sixteen miles northeast of that town, Carter & Fiero sank a well from which they have already taken 800 barrels of oil. They mean business, and have invested over $16,000 in machinery, with the intention of testing the value of the well by sinking it to a good depth. In tunneling for coal a party struck an oil spring which now flows 2½ gallons per day. Men, whose judgment can be relied on, say that the coal oil interest will yet be the greatest resource of Western Wyoming.

The deposits of IRON ORE within this Territory are fully equal to that of the coal. In the range of the Laramie River, Black Hills, at a distance of forty miles from Cheyenne, northwest, we have the Iron Mountain District, a large district containing mountains of iron ore in quantities and of a fineness surpassing anything of the kind this side of the Alleghanies.

The U. P. R. R. Co. have erected large Rolling Mills, Machinery and Foundries at Laramie City, fifty-two miles from Cheyenne, at a cost of one million dollars, and expect to obtain their supply of iron from this district, which will, we verily believe, astonish the nation when fully developed. Also near the town of Rawlins, on the U. P. R. R., are found the largest beds of Red Hematite Iron Ore, yet found on earth. These mines have been considered for some years the best paying investment within the Territory. The Rawlins Metallic Paint Company is already well known throughout the United States; large mills have been erected at that place for manufacturing this Metallic Paint, which is done by simply grinding this ore. In short, our Territory so abounds in Coal, Petroleum and Iron, that situated as we are, almost in the center of the Great West, where an immense demand for these minerals is rapidly springing up and where we shall have an inexhaustible market at our very doors, and on all sides of us, these resources alone will, when developed, make Wyoming to the West, what Pensylvania is to the East.

Major H. Glafcke, editor of the Cheyenne *Leader*, has recently taken a trip through the western portion of our Territory for the purpose of ascertaining the facts with regard to some of these important recent discoveries and we extract the following from one of his letters to the *Leader*:

"Here at Evanston the Utah mining interests promise to furnish unlimited supplies of "rag money" for some time to come, the Evanston Charcoal Company having just received a contract for furnishing 24,000 bushels of the "crop" per month, for eight months, at eighteen cents per bushel. This will create flush times at this point, and will reimburse Messrs. North, Quinn, Pease, McGlinchey, and a few others for money expended in establishing charcoal pits near this city; the enterprise and public spirit manifested by the gentlemen composing the above company will now be duly rewarded.

The wonderful resources of our young Territory are daily becoming more apparent. We saw a few days ago, near Carter Station, a series of coal veins 394 feet in thickness, a mountain of coal, so to speak; one vein of coal packed on the top of another, outcropping and being plainly in sight for a mile. This immense deposit is claimed by Messrs. Carter & Bevens, of Carter Station, who have associated themselves with a company of Utah capitalists, to develop the mine and to furnish coke for the Utah smelting works.

Another, but smaller, vein of coal, of superior quality, and which produces the best of coke, has also been discovered near Smith's Fork, about eighteen miles north of Evanston. The proprietors of this mine propose to build a number of ovens for burning coke. They have tested the quality of their coal and although the coke they produced was burned in open air, it was pronounced equal to the best of eastern coke, by experts, at several of the smelting works in Utah. In pushing this enterprise the Smith Brothers, the principal owners of this mine, will add greatly to the many resources of Evanston and vicinity.

At Rock Springs, the other great coal producing point in this Territory, work is being prosecuted with great diligence. The mines are being worked to their utmost capacity, and nearly a hundred cars of coal are brought to the surface and shipped daily. Many permanent improvements are also going forward in this place.

RELIABLE STATEMENT OF RICHARD IRWIN ON THE BLACK HILLS.

From the Cheyenne Leader, Dec 31, 1875.

A reporter of the *Leader* called upon Mr. Richard Irwin yesterday, at his hotel, and obtained that gentlemen's consent to an interview in regard to the Black Hills. Mr. Irwin is an experienced miner who has been engaged in mining in Colorado for many years; he has made two visits to the Black Hills, being the original discoverer of the Placer mines in what is known as the Jenney mining district, of which he was elected recorder last summer. Mr. Irwin is now en route to Rosita, Colorado, where he will spend a few weeks in winding up his affairs, when he will return to his claims in the Black Hills. Mr. Irwin is considered one of our most reliable citizens, and his statements, therefore, can be entirely depended upon for honesty and truthfulness:

We give the following verbatim report of the conversation between Mr. Irwin and our reporter:

Reporter—Mr. Irwin, you have been in the Hills several months; can you give the readers of the Leader an idea in regard to the number of miners in the Hills and the manner in which mining claims are being located?

Mr. Irwin—I have spent seven months in various sections of the Black Hills, having accompanied Prof. Jenney in his explorations last summer. Our party located in Jenney mining district, and we worked there exclusively. There are about three hundred miners in our vicinity, among them many Montana men. New arrivals are noted daily. Re-organization and re-location are the order of the day. At a meeting held in our district a week ago, claims not represented by personal appearance on the ground, on or before the 1st of January, 1876, were declared forfeited and open to re-location.

Reporter—What are the prospects in your district, and what are the miners doing in other parts of the Black Hills?

Mr. Irwin—Considerable business is being done in our vicinity. John W. Allen, our new recorder, is taking out one dollar per hour for every hand at work. As the evenings and mornings are frosty, they cannot run sluices over six hours per day. Others are rocking out "grub stakes," and opening their claims so as to be ready for "dividends" in the spring.

Castle Creek is lively—cabins are going up and everybody is excited over rich prospects. Rapid Canon is located from head to mouth, and ten cents to the pan is considered a low average prospect in the pay-streaks there. Parties just in from Iron and Sand Creeks, on the northwestern slope, report cold weather there and everything frozen up; they claim to have rich shallow diggings in that section, and on the adjoining creeks in Crook county, Wyoming Territory. A stampede is expected to that portion of the hills as soon as spring opens, as it is generally admitted to be the richest in placer and quartz mines yet discovered in the Black Hills. Messrs. Mallory and Porter from the Buckeye district, in the Bear Lode range, arrived at our camp recently; they claim to have discovered very rich quartz, and say but little can be done in their placer mines at present, owing to the cold weather and scarcity of water.

Reporter—Which of the new settlements is likely to be the principal one in the Black Hills?

Mr. Irwin—This can scarcely be determined at this early day. New towns are growing up all around us; Custer City will soon be a first-class burg, if she does not aspire to become the leading city of the Hills. The latest candidate in the "metropolis" is Hilyo, or Hill City, at the junction of the roads down Spring Creek, and leading from Spring to Castle Creek. It is about sixteen miles farther in the direction of the Hills than Custer City, and in a very promising location; but time will soon determine which town is to lead off.

Reporter—Is there much snow in the Hills or on the way?

Mr. Irwin—There was no snow in the Hills to amount to anything, when I left, and I saw but little on the plains on the way out.

Reporter—Did you meet many miners going to the Hills?

Mr. Irwin—I counted one hundred and forty men going in via Pollock's cut-off.

Reporter—Which is the best route to take from Cheyenne?

Mr. Irwin—The best route to Custer City, Castle Creek and Hilyo, via Pollock's cut-off. Parties going that way should carry wood from Cottonwood to Government Farm, and from Rawhide to Running Water. The right hand road, three miles beyond Running Water is known as Pollock's cut-off.

OUTFITS FOR MINERS.

The necessary saddle and pack animals, teams, wagons, etc., required for the transportation of miners and mining outfits, can be procured at Cheyenne at reasonable prices. Persons going to the Black Hills can outfit to much better advantage here than by purchasing in Chicago or St. Louis, and then freighting the articles here. Groceries, provisions, clothing, mining tools and all other necessary articles can be procured of our merchants at this point. The following may be considered average prices for animals and wagons:

Team of two horses	$100	to	350
Team of two mules	200	"	300
Oxen per yoke	80	"	100
Saddle horse	40	"	75
Saddle mule	40	"	60
Pack horse	40	"	60
Pack mule	40	"	60
Two-horse wagon	100	"	125
Four-horse wagon	125	"	150

PROVISIONS·

Flour	$3.00	to	4.50	per	sack.
Bacon	15	"	16	"	lb
Syrup	75	"	1.25	"	gallon
Coffee, Rio	26	"	30	"	lb
Sugar	12	"	15	"	"
Tea	60	"	1.50	"	"
Baking powders	45	"	50	"	"
Beans	6	"	7	"	"
Grain—Corn	1.90	"	2.00	"	100lbs
Oats	1.65	"	2.00	"	"

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S REPORT---1875.

As we propose to give the reader all possible knowledge of the important resources of Wyoming which we can afford to comprise in a brief work of this kind; we give herewith extensive extracts from the sixth annual report of Dr. Silas Reed, Surveyor General of Wyoming Territory. Dr. Reed's six years experience in the Territory in this capacity, together with his reputation as a scientist, renders the following extracts a very important acquisition to this work.

GOLD AND SILVER MINES.

There are some good gold veins and placer mines in the Sweetwater District, a number of which have been worked with considerable profit by the owners, who are generally men of quite limited capital, and mine under very great disadvantages because of Indian raids, and the distance from railroads.

The silver mines of the Seminole Mountains, fifty miles northwest of Fort Steele, continue to be worked, and promise a profitable yield when reasonably developed, and more capital is applied to the working of them. These lodes are chiefly in the Ferris mining district, where the geological formation is much like that at Georgetown, in Colorado, consisting of alternate layers or belts of gray, brown and reddish gneissoid rock.

The same formation is found to exist at Laramie and Reed's Peaks, 40 to 50 miles west of Fort Laramie.

The gold placer mines and gold quartz lodes of the Medicine Bow Mountain, on the western edge of the Laramie Plains, and west of Laramie City, begin to attract considerable and merited attention.

The Last Chance and Brush Creek placer diggings, have produced very well this year.

Two lodes of gold-bearing quartz have been discovered at the base of the Medicine Bow Mountains at the head of the Little Laramie, this year, one of which is named the "Centennial," and both are spoken of as bearing very rich gold quartz; as the samples I have seen fully demonstrate. The veins are not yet worked to a depth sufficient to test their real economic value.

The gold mines of Clark's Fork, a branch of the Yellowstone, in Northwestern Wyoming, continues to be worked by miners from the vicinity of Bozeman, Montana, and the mountains east of Yellowstone Lake and National Park, in which Clark's Fork rises, will, in due time, become a resort for a population of gold miners.

The gold mines of the Black Hills and the Big Horn Mountains, will attract wide spread attention, when peaceable possession is gained by the whites, and the warlike Sioux are sufficiently removed.

THE BLACK HILLS,

now so well advertised all over the continent, are located in Northwestern Wyoming and Western Dakota. Their area is small and their gold-bearing surface far inferior to the Big Horn Mountains, about 100 miles west of the Black Hills. These latter mountains are not sufficiently explored nor the gold deposits tested to such an extent as to enable us to give an intelligent opinion of the amount of gold they will yield when fully opened up to mining enterprise and population.

We have lately conversed with miners of judgment and experience, well known to us, who have passed over their entire length, made valuable discoveries, and have come here for farther supplies, with the hope and intention of returning there to spend the winter.

BIG HORN MOUNTAIN—ITS GOLD RESOURCES.

This mountain rises about forty miles northwest of old Ft. Casper on the North Platte, some distance west of Fort Fetterman. It is a broad, high mountain, trending off to the northwest some two hundred miles, and then turns westerly towards Yellowstone Park and Lake. It is cut in twain at its bend by the Big Horn River, where it has excavated a deep canon of about sixty miles in length, near the lower end of which, and between it and the Yellowstone river, Fort C. F. Smith was located in 1867. From the northeastern base of this mountain flow Powder, Tongue, Rosebud and Little Big Horn rivers, and all of them are said to contain gold in their alluvium beds. From its western base flow numerous small streams that enter the Big Horn river, and are known to carry down the placer gold.

The backbone or granitoid portions of this mountain, have not been explored, except by a bold adventurous miner now and then, who hides from the Indians, and returns in the fall with quite a harvest of fine gold, and gives glowing accounts of the future gold resources of the mountains.

The Big Horn, like all the other mountains of Wyoming, was elevated at a very recent period of geology; chiefly, indeed, after the close of the Tertiary era.

Like the Medicine Bow, Laramie, Sweet Water, Wind River, and the Black Hills mountains, it was forced up through all the overlying strata which are so numerous in thickness in the Rocky Mountain region. Over the granite base are deposited:

1st. The old Red or Potsdam sand-stone—occasionally giving place to massive deposits of quartzite, as at Park City and Alma, in the Wasatch, or the dark micaceous slates, as at the Sweetwater mines, and probably some parts of the Black Hills.

2d. The carboniferous Silurian limestone formation which is of enormous (several miles) thickness, as seen between Parley's Park and the Big and Little Cottonwood canons, in the Wasatch mountains, and is the receptacle of the famous Emma mine, and most of the other noted silver mines there. This wonderful formation is fully described in the Clarence King volume on Geology. This stratified linear formation is generally silver bearing, when found of sufficient thickness, lying against the sides of the Rocky mountains.

3d. Next is found the stratified Triassic formation, generally of blood red color, and upon it rests the rocks of the Jurassic period.

4th. Upon the Triassic and Jurassic rocks, lies generally a thick deposit of cretaceous rocks, of no economic value. except for cheap building purposes.

5th. The Tertiary, or most recent rock formations, is composed of poor, porous limestone, which underlies the soil and gravel of the plains, around Cheyenne and Denver, and along the base of these mountains for hundreds of miles. In the lowest strata, next to the cretaceous rocks, are found all the remarkable lignite coal veins of Wyoming; Colorado and Montana.

These coal veins crop out all along the eastern base of the Big Horn Mountain and dip eastwardly into the basin between it and the Black Hills, through which run the Powder river and other streams to the Yellowstone.

Now it was, at a recent period in geological time that this mountain, as well as the most of the others east of a north and south line, drawn through Salt Lake basin, that the upheaving granites and porphyries had to raise and burst assunder all this vast thickness of overlying stratified rocks, and thus expose the granite surface only along the central portions of the line of upheaval, and cause them to form the crest and peaks now found in the highest parts of the mountains.

Thus the gold exists only in the granites, porphyries, and gneissoid stratas contiguous to them.

The silver is found in the quartzite and old lime formations where they are thick and largely developed, and where we pass down over the Triassic and cretaceous rocks to the junction of the latter with the overlying Tertiary lime rocks, we find the coal veins, some beds even presenting oyster shells, because the coal deposition commenced here almost simultaneously with the close of the salt water subsidence at the termination of the cretaceous period.

Thus along the base of the mountain (and probably along that of the Black Hills) are found the coal veins, and up in the crest of the mountains the gold and silver veins. The gold is brought down by the streams and deposited along their beds, as fast as the outcropping gold veins in the granite crest of the mountains decay and crumble to pieces, and the melting snows in spring time wash this debris to the streams below.

The Big Horn mountains is so much (three or four times) larger and broader than the Black Hills, and of much the same geological and mineral bearing character that we anticipate a vastly larger and more profitable field for a large population of miners in the Big Horn mountains than in the Black Hills.

The distance between the two ranges cannot be over 100 miles—possibly not that much. The basin or plain between them contains the Powder River and other streams, and furnishes the most valuable stock grazing and agricultaral lands within the bounds of Wyoming Territory.

If the United States Commissioners, now with the Sioux Indians to treat for or to purchase their claims for those lands and gold-bear-mountains, are successful, there will be a great rush of miners, stock-growers and agriculturists to that country next spring and summer, and Wyoming will soon have population enough to become a State. At this time large numbers of miners are at Cheyenne, having left the Black Hills by direction of the military authorities, to await the result of the negotiations, now going on with Red Cloud, Spotted Tail and other Sioux chiefs, and are expecting to return this fall if possible.

But even if a treaty or bargain be consummated this fall, it will have to go before Congress for the necessary appropriations, the coming winter, and thus we do not anticipate a return there of any miners before spring, unless it be a few desperate ones who are willing to brave death by a stealthy return to this place.

STOCK RAISING.

This has become a most important and profitable industry in Wyoming, as well as to the other Territories along the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains.

It is now well ascertained by years of experience, that large herds of cattle will feed themselves and remain in good condition throughout the winter and spring months, without being fed hay or grain, by their owners.

They subsist wholly upon the cured, nutritious grasses of the Plains, known as the gramma and bunch grasses.

In May they are found in better condition than the stock cattle of the farmers in the States, who feed hay and corn out of doors, and do not stall feed them.

The snow falls are usually quite light and dry—and within twelve hours after the storm subsides, the winds will bare the hills and plains so effectually that the herds can commence feeding again.

During the storm, unless well sheltered by steep hills and bluffs, the cattle will move along with the wind until it abates, when the herders follow and return them to their range.

The system of "round-ups," or annual gathering, has become so complete that almost every herd of stock in the country is driven in, identified by its brand, and returned to its owner's range—cattle are often found one hundred miles or more away. The losses from straying off are, under this system, reduced to almost nothing.

The annual profits to the careful, experienced and judicious owner, are found to range from forty to sixty per cent. on the investment. I noticed an instance this summer, where one thousand Texas yearling calves were purchased two years ago at $7.00 per head, and were sold this season for beef, at $28.00 per head.

They had never been sheltered or fed hay or grian, and the cost of herding was so slight, that the owner realized a profit of nearly or quite one hundred per cent. per annum on his investment for the two years.

The number of cattle in this (Laramie) county last year, was estimated to be forty thousand. Last spring, the Assessor's list showed 55,000 head, but more than 5,000 head have no doubt been overlooked in the county.

The Assessor's rolls show less than 3,000 horses and mules, but this is far below the number, we believe.

This year the stock cattle imported into this county, and into the valleys of the north and south Plattes, in close proximity, number 32,935 head. These are brought in from Texas mainly, and some from New Mexico, and sold to the established stock growers, who keep the three year olds one year to fatten them on our rich grasses, and then ship them to Chicago for sale. The one and two year olds are retained one or two or more years for growth, and then shipped to market.

In this manner the stock growers are accummulating wealth at a more rapid rate than any other class of our citizens.

Mr. J. W. Iliff is the largest stock grower and operator in Wyoming or Colorado. His herds number from 15,000 to 35,000, some grazing in Wyoming, but the largest number occupy favorable locations along the valley of the South Platte and its tributaries.

Mr. Dudley H. Snyder, whose herds occupy the valley of Sabile Creek in this county, is perhaps the largest importer of Texas stock into Wyoming. He and his brother, John W. Snyder, of Texas, own large ranges there, and co-operate in the stock importing business—one buying herds and driving them from Texas, and the other, Mr. D. H. Snyder, receiving them here, and disposing of them to our largest ranchmen and stock growers.

This season, the 32,935 head imported, have been purchased by our stock men, about as follows:

Bought by	J. W. Iliff,	6,000	head.
"	Shiedley	4,000	"
"	Mayberry & Millett,	4,000	"
"	Bosler,	3,000	"
"	Searight,	3,200	"
"	Pratt & Ferris,	2,000	"
"	Snyder,	1,800	"
"	Faxton,	1,700	"
"	Boyd,	2,500	"
"	Mendenhall.,	1,000	"
"	Coad,	700	"
"	Goodall & Sturgiss,	836	"
"	M. V. Boughton,	700	"
"	Kent & Guiterman,	600	"
"	Davis,	600	"
"	Webb & Coffee,	300	"
Total,		32,000	

The following statement will show how rapidly the stock business is increasing in this (Laramie) county and vicinity. I am informed by Mr. Snyder that there is a demand now for 20,000 head over the number furnished in the above list, that could not be met this season. I have no data from the four counties west of this, giving the amount of stock on the Laramie Plains and in the valley of

Green and Bear Rivers, but a count would doubtless give over 40,000 head of cattle.

SHEEP GROWING.

The sheep of this, Laramie county, last spring, numbered by the Assessor's roll, 22,322. The increase from about 17,000 breeding ewes, of the above total, would be not less than 12,000, after all losses in infancey.

The number driven into the Territory and contracted for by the different wool growers this season, is 43,000.

About 1,000 thoroughbred bucks were brought into this county this season, valued here at $30 per head, and costing $30,000.

Thus, the number of sheep in this county this fall, will number as follows:—

Stock reported last year,	22,322
Increase of May and June,	12,000
Imported this summer,	43,000
Number Thoroughbred Bucks,	1,000
Total No. in the county now,	78,322

The largest wool growers are M. E. Post, Hay & Thomas, and M. V. Boughton, their flocks ranging from 6,000 to 8,000. Many others own fine flocks of 1,000 to 4,000.

The wool product is mainly shipped to Boston for sale—some being purchased here by Boston wool agents.

Messrs. Hay & Thomas have 1,000 merinos in their flocks of about 6,000. These sheared last spring 9,000 pounds of wool, showing an average of nine pounds to the sheep. Last year the avearage was only about seven pounds to the head.

They were brought from Wisconsin two years ago, and while undergoing acclimation, did not average over seven pounds to the head at the end of the first year, while for the second year, the average per head was nine pounds.

Sheep need shelter from the storms, and some hay at such times. But those bred from New Mexican ewes, crossed by the Merino bucks, rarely taste hay during the winter, and only after very severe storms, for a day or two.

The profit on well managed and cared for sheep, is from fifty to sixty per cent. per annum, and no place on the continent excels this, for successful sheep growing.

SHIPMENT OF WOOL AND STOCK FROM WYOMING.

The following statement of the shipments of stock from Wyoming Territory, to market, the last twenty months, has been furnished at our request, by our accommodating and gentlemanly Division Superintendent, J. T. Clark, of Cheyenne.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, U. P. R. R.,
Cheyenne, Sept. 2, 1875.

DR. SILAS REED,

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request, I hand you herewith a statement of the number of cars of live stock shipped on the U. P. R. R., in Wyoming Territory, from January 1st, 1874, to September 1st, 1875:

SHIPPED FROM	NO. CARS.
Cheyenne Station,	553
Pine Bluff "	167
Green River "	27
Laramie Division,	98
Granger Station,	52
Total,	897

Cattle, 760 cars; horses, 81 cars; mules, 31 cars; sheep, 19 cars; hogs, 3 cars. Total, 897 cars.

Your truly, J. T. CLARK, Div. Supt.

The three car loads of hogs stated in the list, we suppose to be importations instead of exportations, for hogs are raised here only in limited numbers, and for home consumption.

We have also ascertained that 150,000 pounds of wool have been shipped East from here this summer, and about 200,000 pounds of hides. From these statements it will be seen how rapidly and profitably the wool and stock growing interests are increasing in Wyoming.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

The business and profits of this great road have wonderfully increased during the past year, since our fifth annual report. For the year ending last of March, the profits of the road had increased nearly two million dollars, over the previous year.

Nothwithstanding the more than usual severity of the weather last January, and an increased quantity of snow fall, over the preceding winter, there was almost no detention of trains, or missing connections of division trains. The length of the road in Wyoming, by their measurement is about 480 miles.

The chief interruption of trains came last spring, and was caused by the flood in Bitter Creek Valley, from the sudden melting of the snow around the heads of the creek.

Very large and numerous shipments of teas and China goods have passed over the road the last year, and are constantly increasing. The shipments of bullion and silver ores, over the road eastward, from Nevada and Utah, are large and rapidly increasing.

The shipments of stock to market from Cheyenne alone, as seen by a statement under that head, may seem quite astonishing, if one reflects that only five years ago there was scarcely a shipment except by J. W. Iliff, who then was almost the only stock grower in this country, sufficiently large to have a surplus to ship to market by railroad.

RAPID GROWTH OF CHEYENNE.

Cheyenne has gained in population and in the erection of new buildings this year, very remarkably. This is owing in part to the influx of people and the material increase of business, caused by the Black Hills gold excitement.

The rapid increase in the number of stock ranches, and the large importations of cattle and sheep from Texas and New Mexico this year, also aided largely in the present prosperity of Cheyenne, which is far beyond anything witnessed here for the last five years. There have been erected in 1875, two new brick hotels, of three stories each, three frame hotels, ten brick stores, seventeen brick dwellings, one city hall, brick, and ninety-two frame dwellings. To this may be added the shipments to Chicago and the east of $200,000 worth of beef cattle in the last two months, and about 200,000 pounds of wool, which serve to add much to the wealth of Cheyenne.

The towns of Laramie City, Evanston, Carbon and Hilliard have nearly a proportional increase to that of Cheyenne. They are all located on the U. P. Railroad.

The first named town is supported by the railroad machine shops; the rolling mill of the U. P. Railroad Co., now in constant operation; the stock ranches upon the Laramie Plains; the timber business of the mountains near by, and the gold mines of the Medicine Bow mountains.

Evanston has the business of the large coal mines in its vicinity, and the produce of timber that is rafted down Bear River, together with the trade of its surrounding country.

Carbon depends wholly upon its coal mines, worked by the U. P. R. R. Co., the same as at Rock Springs, on Bitter Creek, where large quantities of the best quality of coal are produced.

OUR GREAT NATIONAL PARK.

The Yellowstone River, one of the tributaries of the Missouri, has a long, devious flow of thirteen hundred miles ere it losses its waters in those of the larger stream, the Missouri. The source is a noble lake, situated in Wyoming Territory, and resting amid the snow-peaks of the highest mountain-range in the country. The upper course of the river is through immense canons and ranges, and its flow is often marked by splendid water-falls and rapids, presenting at various points some of the most remarkable scenery in the country. The entire region about its source is volcanic, and abounds in boiling springs, mud-volcanoes, soda-springs, sulphur-mountains, and geysers the marvel of which outdo those of Iceland. This remarkable area has recently been set apart by Congress for a great National Park. It certainly possesses striking characteristics for the purpose to which it has been devoted, exhibiting the grand and magnificent in its snow-capped mountains and dark canons, the picturesque in its splendid water-falls and strangely formed rocks, the beautiful in the sylvan shores of its noble lake, and the phenomena in its geysers, hot-springs and mountains of sulphur. It may be claimed that in no portion of the globe are there united so many surprising features—none where the conditions of beauty and contrast are so calculated to delight the artist, or where the phenomena are so abundant for the entertainment and instruction of the student.

It is a magnificent domain in its proportions, extending nearly sixty-five miles from north to south, and fifty-five miles from east to west. The Yellowstone Lake lies near the southeasterly corner of the park, the Yellowstone River flowing from its upper boundary, and running almost due north. The lake is twenty-two miles in length, and its average width from ten to fifteen miles. Its height above the level of the sea is seven thousand feet, while its basin is surrounded by mountains reaching an altitude of over ten thousand feet, the peaks of which are covered with perpetual snow. Numerous hot springs are found on the shores of the lake, and also along the banks of the river. About fifteen miles from its source, the river takes two distinct, precipitous leaps, known as the Upper and Lower Falls, and beyond the falls cuts its way through an immense canon, the vertical walls of which reach, at places, the height of fifteen hundred feet. Near the western boundary of the park, the Madison, an important tributary of the Columbia, takes its rise; and along one of the branches of this river, known as Fire-Hole River, are found numerous extraordinary geysers, some of which throw volumes of boiling water to a height exceeding two hundred feet. In the nortwest corner of the park, the Gallatin, another tributary of the Columbia, takes its rise. This wonder-land has only been recently explored. For years, marvelous stories have been rife among the hunters of the far West of a mysterious country in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, which the Indians avoided as the abode of evil spirits; where the rumble of the earthquake is frequently heard; where great jets of steam burst through the earth; where volcanoes throw up mud instead of fire, and where a river flows through gorges of savage grandeur; but beyond these rumors, often apparently absurd exaggerations, nothing was known of the region. An exploring party, under Captain Reynolds, of the United States Engineer Corps, endeavored to enter the Yellowstone Basin in 1859, by way of the Wind River Mountains, at the south, but failed on account of the ruggedness of the mountains and the depth of the snow. In 1870, an exploring party under General Washburn, escorted by Lieutenant Doane, of the United States Army, succeeded in entering the valley, and from this source the public obtained the first trustworthy accounts of this strange land. Immediately thereafter, an expedition under sanction of Congress, was organized by the Secretary of the Interior, and placed in the charge of Prof. F. V. Hayden, United States geologist; while at the same time, a party under command of Lieutenant Barlow, of the United States Engineer Corps, ascended the Yellowstone, and traversed the greater part of the area now included in the Park. Professor Hayden's expedition made a thorough exploration of the whole reigion, and it is to his full and exhaustive report to Congress that we are indebted for an accurate detailed knowledge of the strange features of this remarkable land. It is to this gentleman, probably more than to any other person, that we are indebted for the idea of converting the Valley into a National Park. The expedition, however, was organized by the Hon. Columbus Delano, Secretary of the Interior; and hence, we may attribute the successful issue of the noble conception to the co-operation of the Secretary with the purposes of the scientific explorers appointed by him. From the interesting pages of Professor Hayden's report we mainly draw the subjoined particulars of the romantic wonders of our imperial pleasure ground:

THE YELLOWSTONE BASIN.

"The Yellowstone Basin proper, in which the greater portion of the interesting scenery and wonders is located, comprises only that portion enclosed within the remarkable ranges of mountains which give origin to the waters of the Yellowstone south of Mount Washburn and the Grand Canon. The range of which Mount Washburn is a conspicuous peak, seems to form the north wall, or rim, extending nearly east and west across the Yellowstone, and it is through this portion of the rim that the river has cut its channel, forming the remarkable falls and still more wonderful canon. The area of this basin is about forty miles in length. From the summit of Mount Washburn a bird's-eye view of the entire basin may be obtained, with the mountains surounding it on every side, without any apparent break in the rim. This basin has been called by some travelers the vast crater of an extnict volcano. It is probable that during the Piocene period the entire country drained by the sources of the Yellowstone and the Columbia was the scene of as great volcanic activity as that of any portion of the globe. It might be called one vast crater, made up of thousands of smaller volcanic vents and fissures, out of which the fluid interior of the earth, fragments of rock and volcanic dust were poured in unlimited quantities. Hundreds of the nuclei or cores of these volcanic vents are now remaining, some of them rising to a height of ten thousand to eleven thousand feet above the sea.

"Mounts Doane, Langford, Stevenson and more than a hundred other peaks, may be seen from any point either side the basin, each of which formed a center of effusion. Indeed, the Hot Springs and Geysers of this region, at the present time, are nothing more than the closing stages of that wonderful period of volcanic action that began in Tertiary times. In other words, they are the escape-pipes or vents for those internal forces which were once so active, but are continually dying out. The evidence is clear that ever since the cessation of the more powerful volcanic forces, these springs have acted as the escape-pipes, but have continued to decline down to the present time, and will do so in the future, until the cease entirely."

THE FALLS AND THE GRAND CANON.

"But the objects of the deepest interest in this region are the falls and the Grand Canon. I will attempt to convey some idea by a description, but it is only through the eye that the mind can gather anything like an adequate conception of them. As we approached the margin of the canon, we could hear the suppressed roar of the falls, resembling distant thunder. The two falls are not more than one-fourth of a mile apart. Above the Upper Falls the Yellowstone flows through a grassy, meadow-like valley, with a calm, steady current, giving no warning, until very near the falls, that it is about to rush over a precipice one hundred and forty feet, and then, within a quarter of a mile, again to leap down a distance of three hundred and fifty feet. But no language can do justice to the wonderful grandeur and beauty of the canon below the Lower Falls; the very nearly vertical walls, slightly sloping down to the water's edge on either side, so that from the summit the river appears like a thread of silver foaming over its rocky bottom; the variegated color of the sides, yellow, red, brown, white, all intermingled and shading into each other; the Gothic columns of every form, standing out from the sides of the walls with greater variety and more striking colors than ever adorned a work of human art. The margins of the canon on either side are beautifully fringed with pines. In some places the walls of the canon are composed of massive basalt, so separated by the jointage as to look like irregular mason work going to decay. Here and there, a depression in the surface of the basalt has been subsequently filled up by the recent deposits, and the horizontal strata of sandstone can be seen. The decomposition and the colors of the rocks must have been due largely to hot water from the springs, which has percolated all through, giving to them the present variegated and unique appearance.

"Standing near the margin of Lower Falls, and looking down the canon, which looks like an immense chasm or cleft in the basalt, with its sides twelve hundred to fifteen hundred feet high, and decorated with the most brilliant colors that the human eye ever saw, with the rocks wreathed into an almost unlimited variety of forms, with here and there a pine sending its roots into the clefts on the sides, as if struggling with a sort of uncertain success to maintain an existence —the whole presents a picture that it would be difficult to surpass in Nature. Mr. Thomas Moran, a celebrated artist, and noted for his skill as a colorist, exclaimed, with a sort of regretful enthusiasm, that these beautiful tints were beyond the reach of human art. It is not the depth alone that gives such an impression of grandeur to the mind, but it is also the picturesque forms and coloring.

"After the waters of the Yellowstone roll over the upper descent, they flow with great rapidity over the apparently flat, rocky, bottom, which spreads out to nearly double its width above the falls, and continues thus until near the Lower Falls, where the channel again contracts, and the waters seem, as it were, to gather themselves into one compact mass and plunge over the descent of three hundred and fifty feet, in detached drops of foam as white as snow; some of the large globules of water shoot down like the contents of an exploded rocket. It is a sight far more beautiful than, though not so grand and impressive as, that of Niagara Falls. A heavy mist always rises from the water at the foot of the Falls, so dense that one cannot approach within two hundred or three hundred feet, and even then the clothes will be drenched in a few minutes. Upon the yellow, nearly vertical wall of the west side, the mist mostly falls; and for three hundred feet from the bottom the wall is covered with a thick matting of mosses, sedges, grasses, and other vegetation, of the most vivid green, which have sent their small roots into the softened rocks, and are nourished by the ever-ascending spray. At the base and quite high up on the sides of the canon are great quantities of talus, and through the fragments of rocks and decomposed spring deposits may be seen the horizontal strata of breccia."

TOWER CREEK.

"Tower Creek rises in the high divide between the valleys of the Missouri and Yellowstone, and flows ten miles through a canon so deep and gloomy that it has very properly earned the appellation of the Devil's Den. As we gaze from the margin down into the depths below, the little stream, as it rushes foaming over the rocks, seems like a white thread, while on the sides of the gorge the sombre pinnacles rise up like Gothic spires. About two hundred yards above its entrance into the Yellowstone, the stream pours over an abrupt descent of one hundred and fifty-six feet, forming one of the most beautiful and picturesque falls to be found in any country. The Tower Falls are about two hundred and sixty feet above the level of the Yellowstone at the junction, and they are surrounded with pinnacle-like columns, composed of the volcanic breccia, rising fifty feet above the falls, and extending down to the foot, standing like gloomy sentinels or like the gigantic pillars at the entrance of some grand temple. One could almost imagine that the idea of the Gothic style of architecture had been caught from such carvings of nature. Immense boulders of basalt and granite here obstruct the flow below the falls; and although, so far as we can see, the gorge seems to make up the volcanic cement, yet we know that, in the loftier mountains, near the source of the stream, true granitic as well as igneous rocks prevail."

YELLOWSTONE LAKE.

"On the 28th of July, (1871)," says Professor Hayden, "we arrived at the lake, and pitched our camp on the northwest shore, in a beautiful grassy meadow or spring among the pines. The lake lay before us, a vast sheet of quiet water, of a most delicate ultramarine hue, one of the most beautiful scenes I have ever beheld. The entire party were filled with enthusiasm. The great object of all our labors had been reached, and we were amply paid for all our toils. Such a vision is worth a lifetime, and only one of such marvellous beauty will ever greet human eyes. From whatever point of view one may behold it, it presents an unique picture. We had brought up the frame-work of a boat, twelve feet long and three and a half feet wide, which we covered with stout ducking, well tarred. On the morning of the 29th, Messrs. Stevenson and Elliot started across the lake in the Anna, the first boat ever launched on the Yellowstone, and explored the nearest island, which we named after the assistant of the expedition, who was undoubtedly the first white man who ever placed foot upon it.

Our little bark, whose keel was first to plough the waters of the most beautiful lake on the continent, and which must now become historical, was named by Mr. Stevenson in compliment to Miss Anna L. Dawes, the amiable daughter of Hon. H. L. Dawes. My whole party were glad to manifest, by this slight tribute, their gratitude to the distinguished statesman, whose generous sympathy and aid had contributed so much toward securing the appropriation which enabled them to explore this marvellous region. Usually in the morning, the surface of the lake is calm, but, toward noon and after, the waves commence to roll, and the white-caps rise high, sometimes four or five feet. Our little boat rode the waves well; but, when a strong breeze blew, the swell was too great, and we could only venture along the shore. This lake is about twenty-two miles in length from north to south, and an average of ten to fifteen miles in width, from east to west. It has been aptly compared to the human hand—the northern portion would constitute the palm, while the southern prolongations or arms might represent the fingers. There are some of the most beautiful shore-lines along this lake that I ever saw. Some of the curves are as perfect as if drawn by the hand of art. Our little boat performed most excellent service. A suitable frame work was fastened in the stern for the lead and line, and, with the boat, a system of soundings was made that gave a very fair idea of the average depth of the lake. The greatest depth discovered was three hundred feet. It is fed by the snows that fall upon the lofty ranges of mountains that surround it on every side. The water of the lake has at all seasons nearly the same temperature of cold spring water. The most accomplished swimmer could live but a short time in it; the dangers attending the navigation of such a lake in a small boat are greatly increased.

The lake abounds in salmon-trout, and is visited by great numbers of wild fowl. We adopted the plan of making permanent camps at different points around the lake while explorations of the country in the vicinity were made.

Our second camp was pitched at the Hot Springs, on the southwest arm. This position commanded one of the finest views of the lake and its surroundings. While the air was still, scarcely a ripple could be seen on the surface, and the varied hues, from the most vivid green shading to ultramarine, presented a picture that would have stirred the enthusiasm of the most fastidious artist. Sometimes, in the latter portion of the day, a strong wind would arise, arousing this calm surface into waves like the sea. Near our camp there is a thick deposit of silica, which has been worn by the waves into a bluff wall, twenty-five feet high above the water. It must have originally extended far out into the lake. The belt of springs at this place is about three miles long and a half a mile wide. The deposit now can be seen far out in the deeper portions of the lake, and the bubbles that rise to the surface in various places indicate the presence, at the orifice, of a hot spring beneath. Some of the funnel-shaped craters extend out so far into the lake, that the members of our party stood upon the silicious mound, extended the rod into the deeper waters, and caught the trout, and cooked them in the boiling spring, without removing them from the hook. These orifices, or chimneys, have no connection with the waters of the lake. The hot fumes coming up through fissures, extending down toward the interior of the earth, are confined within the walls of the orifice, which are mostly circular and beautifully lined with delicate porcelain."

THE HOT SPRINGS.

Upon the west side of Gardner's River, on the slope of the mountain, is one of the most remarkable groups of the hot springs in the world. The springs in action at the present time are not so numerous, or even so wonderful as some of those higher up in the Yellowstone Valley, or in the Fire-Hole Basin, but it is in the remains that we find so instructive records of their past history. The calcareous deposits from these springs cover an area of about two miles square. The active springs extend from the margin of the river, five thousand five hundred and forty-five feet, to an elevation nearly one thousand above, or six thousand five hundred and twenty-two feet above the sea by barometrical measurement. Our path led up the hill by the side of a wall of lower cretaceous rocks, and we soon came to the most abundant remains of old springs, which, in past times, must have been very active. The steep hill, for nearly a mile, is covered with a moderately thick crust, and, though much decomposed and covered with a moderately thick growth of pines and cedars, still the traces of the same wonderful architectural beauty is displayed in the vicinity of the active springs, farther up the hill.

After ascending the side of the mountain, about a mile above the channel of Gardiner's River, we suddenly came in full view of one of the finest displays of Nature's architectural skill the world can produce. The snowy whiteness of the deposit at once suggested the name of White Mountain Hot Spring. It had the appearance of a frozen cascade. If a group of springs near the summit of a mountain were to distribute their waters down the irregular declivities, and they were slowly congealed, the picture would bear some resemblance in form. We pitched our camp at the foot of the principal mountain, by the side of the stream that contained the aggregated waters of the hot springs above, which, by the time they had reached our camp, were sufficiently cooled for our use. Before us was a hill two hundred feet high, composed of the calcareous deposit of the hot springs, with a system of step-like terraces, which would defy any description by words. The eye alone could convey any adequate conception to the mind. The steep sides of the hill were ornamented with a series of semi-circular basins, with margins varying in height from a few inches to six or eight feet, and so beautifully scalloped and adorned with a kind of bead-work, that the beholder stands amazed at this marvel of Nature's handiwork. Add to this a snow-white ground, with every variety of shade, of scarlet, green, and yellow, as brilliant as the brightest of our analine dyes. The pools or basins are of all sizes, from a few inches to six or eight feet in diameter, and from two inches to two feet deep. As the water flows from the spring over the mountain-side from one basin to another, it loses continually a portion of its heat, and the bather can find any desirable temperature. At the top of the hill there is a broad, flat terrace, covered more or less with these basins, one hundred and fifty to two hundred yards in diameter, and many of them going to decay. Here we find the largest, finest, and most active spring of the group at the present time.

The largest spring is very near the outer margin of the terrace, and is twenty-five by forty feet in diameter, the water so perfectly transparent that one can look down into the beautiful ultramarine depth to the bottom of the basin. The sides of the basin are ornamented with coral-like forms, with a great variety of shades, from pure white to a bright cream yellow, and the blue sky, reflected in the transparent waters, gives an azure tint to the whole, which surpasses all art. Underneath the sides of many of these pools are rows of stalactites, of all sizes, many of them exquisitely ornamented, formed by the dripping of the water over the margins of the basins. On the west side of this deposit, about one-third of the way up the White Mountain from the river and terrace, which was once the theater of many active springs, old chimneys or craters, are scattered thickly over the surface, and there are several large holes and fissures leading to vast caverns beneath the crust. The crust gives off a dull, hollow sound beneath the tread, and the surface gives indistinct evidence of having been adorned with the beautiful pools or basins just described. As we pass up to the base of the principal terrace, we find a large area covered with shallow pools, some of them containing water, with all the ornamentations perfect, while others are fast going to decay, and the decomposed sediment is as white as snow. Upon this kind of sub-terrace is a remarkable cone, about fifty feet in height, and twenty feet in diameter at the base. From its form we gave it the name of Liberty Cap. It is undoubtedly the remains of an extinct geyser. The water was forced up with considerable power, and probably without intermission, building up its own crater until the pressure beneath was exhausted, and then it gradually closed itself over at the summit and perished. No water flows from it at the present time. The layers of lime were deposited around it like the layers of straw on a thatched roof, or hay on a conical stack.

The entire Yellowstone Basin is covered more or less with dead or dying springs, but there are centres or groups where the activity is greatest at the present time. Below the falls there is an extensive area covered with the deposits which extend from the south side of Mount Washburn across the Yellowstone River, covering an area of ten or fifteen square miles. On the south side of Mount Washburn there is quite a remarkable group of active springs. They are evidently diminishing in power, but the rivers all around reveal the most powerful manifestations far back in the past. Sulphur, copper, alum, and soda, cover the surface.

There are also precipitated around the borders of some of the mud-springs a white effervescence, probably nitrate of potash. These springs are located on the side of the mountain nearly one thousand feet above the margin of the canon, but extend along into the level portions below. In the immediate channel of the river, at the present time, there are very few springs, and these not important. A few small steam vents can be observed only from the issue of small quantities of steam. One of these springs was bubbling quite briskly, but had a temperature of only one hundred degrees. Extending across the canon on the opposite side of the Yellowstone, interrupted here and there, this group of springs extends for several miles, forming one of the largest deposits of silver, but only here and there are signs of life. Many of the dead springs are mere basins, with a thick deposit of iron on the sides, lining the channel of the water that flows from them. These vary in temperature from ninety-eight to one hundred and twenty degrees. The steam-vents are very numerous, and the chimneys lined with sulphur. Where the crust can be removed, we find the underside lined with the most delicate crystals of sulphur, which disappear like frostwork at the touch. Still there is a considerable amount of solid amorphous sulphur. The sulphur and the iron, with the vegetable matter, which is always very abundant about the springs, give, through the almost infinite variety of shades, a most pleasing and striking picture.

MUD SPRINGS.

"We pitched our camp on the shore of the river, near the Mud Springs, thirteen and a half miles above our camp on Cascade Creek. The springs are scattered along on both sides of the river, sometimes extending upon the hill-side fifty to two hundred feet above the level of the river.

Commencing with the lower or southern side of the group, I will attempt to describe a few of them. The first one is a remarkable mud spring, with a well-defined circular rim, composed of fire-clay, and raised about four feet above the surface around, and about six feet above the mud in the basin. The diameter of the basin is about eight feet. The mud is so fine as to be impalpable, and the whole may be most aptly compared to a cauldron of boiling mush. The gas is constantly escaping, throwing up the mud for a few inches to six feet in height; and there is no doubt that there are times when it is hurled out ten to twenty feet, accummulating around the rim of the basin.

About twenty yards distant from the mud-spring just described, is a second one, with a basin nearly circular, forty feet in diameter, the water six or eight feet below the margin of the rim. The water is quite turbid, and is boiling moderately. Small springs are flowing into it from the south side. The temperature, in some portions of the basin, is thus lowered to ninety-eight degrees. Several small hot springs pour their surplus water into it, the temperature of which are one hundred and eighty, one hundred and seventy, one hundred and eighty-four, and one hundred and fifty-five degrees. In the reservoirs, where the water boils up with considerable force, the temperature is only ninety-six degrees, showing that the bubbling was due to the escape of gas. The bubbles stand all over the surface.

About twenty feet from the last is a small mud-spring, with an orifice ten inches in diameter, with whitish brown mud, one hundred and eighty-two degrees.

Another basin near the last two orifices, the one throwing out the mud with a dull thud, about once in three seconds, spurting the mud out three or four feet; the other is content to boil up quite violently occasionally, throwing the mud ten to twelve inches.

This mud, which has been wrought in these cauldrons for perhaps hundreds of years, is so fine and pure, that the manufacturer of porelain-ware would go into ecstacy at the sight. The contents of many f the springs are of such snowy whiteness that, when dried in cakes, n the sun or by fire, they resemble the finest meerschaum. The colr of the mud depends on the superficial deposits which cover the ground, through which the waters of the springs reach the surface. They were all clear hot springs originally, perhaps geysers even; but he continual caving in of the sides has produced a sort of mud-pot, xactly the same as the process of preparing a kettle of mush. The water at first is clear and hot; then it becomes turbid from the minging of the loose earth around the sides of the orifice, until, by coninued accessions of earth, the contents of the basin become of the consistency of thick mush, and, as the gas bursts up through it, the dull thud-like noise is produced. Every possible variation of condition of the contents is found, from a simple milky turbidness to a stiff mortar.

On the east side of the Yellowstone, close to the margin of the river, are a few turbid and mud springs, strongly impregnated with alum. The mud is quite yellow, and contains much sulphur. This we called a mud sulphur spring. The basin is fifteen by thirty feet, and has three centres of ebullition, showing that, deep down underneath the superficial earth, there are three separate orifices, not connected with each other, for the emissions of the heated waters."

SULPHUR MOUNTAIN AND MUD VOLCANO.

From Lieutenant Barlow's report we derive the following description of a sulphur-mountain near Cascade Creek, and of a mud-volcano a few miles distant: "Toward the western verge of a prairie of several miles in extent, above the Yellowstone Falls, a hill of white rocks was discoveered, which, upon investigation, proved to be another of the "soda-mountains," as they are called by the hunters. Approaching nearer, I found jets of smoke and steam issuing from the face of the hill, while its other side was hollowed out into a sort of amphitheatre, whose sides were steaming with sulphur fumes, the ground hot and parched with internal fires. Acre after acre of this hot volcanic surface lay before me, having numerous cracks and small apertures at intervals of a few feet, whence were expelled, sometimes in steady, continuous streams, sometimes in puffs like those from an engine, jets of vapor more or less impregnated with mineral substances. I ascended the hill, leaving my horse below, fearful that he might break through the thin rock-crust, which in many places gave way beneath the tread, revealing caverns of pure crystalized sulphur, from which hot fumes were sure to issue. The crystals were very fine, but too frail to transport without the greatest care. A large boiling spring, emitting strong fumes of sulphur and sulphuretted hydrogen, not at all agreeable, was also found. The water from the spring, over running its basin, trickled down the hill-side, leaving a highly colored trace in the chalky rock. Upon the opposite side was found a number of larger springs. One, from its ize and the power displayed in throwing water the height of several eet above the surface, was worthy of notice. Near this was a spring aving regular pulsations, like a steam engine, giving off large quantities of steam, which would issue forth with the roar of a hurricane. This was in reality, a steam volcano, deep vibrations in the subter- ean caverns, extending far away beneath the hills, could be distinctly heard. The country from this point to the mud volcano, a few iles above, was mostly rolling prairie, intersected with several reams flowing into the river, some of them having wide estuaries d adjacent swampy flats, covered with thick marsh-grass. Ducks ere usually found in the sluggish streams, as well as in the little kes so numerous throughout this whole region. We camped on he banks of the river, in the immediate vicinity of the mud-geyser. This being the first specimen of the true geyser yet seen, it was examined with great curiosity. The central point of interest, however, s the mud-volcano that has broken out from the side of a well-timbered hill. The crater is twenty-five feet across at the top, gradually loping inward to the bottom, where it becomes about half this diameter. Its depth is about thirty feet. The deposit is gray mud, early pure alumina, and has been thrown up by the action of the olcano at no very distant period. The rim of the crater, on the own-hill side is about ten feet in height, and the trees fifty feet high nd a hundred feet distant are loaded with mud thrown from this volcano. The surface of the bottom is in a constant state of ebullition, puffing and throwing up masses of boiling mud, and sending orth dense columns of steam several hundred feet above the surrounding forests. This vapor can be seen for many miles in all directions.

“Some four hundred yards from this crater are three large hot prings of muddy water, one of which proved to be a geyser, having eriods of active eruption about every six hours. The phenomena ttending these eruptions are as follows: Soon after the violent period passes, the water in the pool gradually subsides through the orifice in the center, the surface falling several fe[illegible], the water almost ntirely disappearing from sight. It then gradually rises again until he former level is reached, during which occasional ebullitions of reater or lesser magnitude occur. Great agitation then ensues; pulsations at regular intervals of a few seconds take place, at each of which the water in the crater is elevated higher, until finally, after ten minutes, a column is forced up to the height of thirty or forty feet. During this period the waves dash against the sides of the basin, vast clouds of steam escape, and a noise like the rumbling of an earthquake takes place. Suddenly, after fifteen minutes of this commotion, the waves recede, quiet is restored, the waters sink gradually to their lowest limit, from which they soon rise again and repeat the same operation."

THE GREAT GEYSER BASIN.

We also quote from Lieutenant Barlow's report the following account of the great Geysers on Fire Hole River: "Entering the basin from the north, and following the banks of the Fire Hole River, whose direction there is about northeast, a series of rapids, quite near together, is encountered, when the river makes a sharp bend to the southeast, at which point is found a small steam-jet upon the right. A warm stream comes from the left, falling over a bank ten feet in height. A short distance beyond a second rapid is found, and then another, about one hundred yards farther on, where the gate of the Geyser Basin is entered. Here, on either side of the river, are two lively geysers, called the Sentinels. The one on the left is in constant agitation, the waters revolving horizontally with great violence, and occasionally spouting upward to the height of twenty feet, the lateral direction being fifty feet. Enormous masses of steam are ejected. The crater of this is three feet by ten. The opposite Sentinel is not so constantly active, and is smaller. The rapids here are two hundred yards in length, with a fall of thirty feet. Following the banks of the river, whose general course is from the southeast, though with many windings, two hundred and fifty yards from the gate we reach three geysers acting in concert. When in full action, the display from these is very fine. The waters spread out in the shape of a fan, in consequence of which they have been named the Fan Geysers. A plateau, opposite the latter, contains fifteen hot springs, of various characteristics; some are of a deep blue color, from sulphate of copper held in solution, and having fanciful caverns distinctly visible below the surface of the water. The openings at the surface are often beautifully edged with delicately-wrought fringes of scalloped rock. One variety deposits a red or brown leathery substance, partially adhering to the sides and bottom of the cavern, and waving to and fro in the water like plants. The size of these springs varies from five to forty feet in diameter. One hundred yards farther up the side of the stream is found a double geyser, a stream from one of its orifices playing to the height of eighty or ninety feet, emitting large volumes of steam. From the formation of its crater it was named the Well Geyser. Above is a pine swamp of cold water, opposite which, and just above the plateau previously mentioned, are found some of the most interesting and beautiful geysers of the whole basin. First we came upon two smaller geysers near a large spring of blue water, while a few yards beyond are seen the walls and arches of the Grotto. This is an exceedingly intricate formation, eight feet in height, and ninety in circumference. It is hollowed into fantastic arches, with pillars and walls of almost indescribable variety. This geyser plays to the height of sixty feet several times during twenty-four hours. The water, as it issues from its numerous apertures, has a very striking and picturesque effect. Near the Grotto is a large crater, elevated four feet above the surface of the hill, having a rough-shaped opening, two by two and a half feet. Two hundred yards farther up are two very fine large geysers, between which and the Grotto are two boiling springs. Proceeding one hundred and fifty yards farther, and passing two hot springs, a remarkable group of geysers is discovered. One of these has a huge crater five feet in diameter, shaped something like the base of a horn —one side broken down—the highest point being fifteen feet above the mound on which it stands. This proved to be a tremendous geyser, which has been called the Giant. It throws a column of water the size of the opening to the measured altitude of one hundred and thirty feet, and continues the display for an hour and a half. The amount of water discharged was immense, almost equal in quantity to that in the river, the volume of which, during the eruption, was doubled. But one eruption of this geyser was observed. Another large crater close by has several orifices, and, with ten small jets surrounding it, formed, probably, one connected system. The hill built up by this group covers an acre of ground, and is thirty feet in height."

In the report to Congress by the Committee on Public Lands, we learn that the entire area comprised within the limits of the reservation is not susceptible of cultivation with any degree of certainty, and the winters would be too severe for stock-raising. Whenever the altitude of the mountain-districts exceed six thousand feet above tide-water, their settlement becomes problematical, unless there are valuable mines to attract people. The entire area within the limits of the proposed reservation is over six thousand feet in altitude; and the Yellowstone Lake, which occupies an area fifteen by twenty-two miles, or three hundred and thirty square miles, is seven thousand four hundred and twenty-seven feet.

The ranges of mountains that hem the valleys in on every side, rise to the height of ten thousand and twelve thousand feet, and are covered with snow all the year. These mountains are all of volcanic origin, and it is not probable that any mines or minerals of value will ever be found there. During the months of June, July and August, the climate is pure and most invigorating, with scarcely any rains or storms of any kind; but the thermometer frequently sinks as low as twenty-six degrees. There is frost every month of the year. These statements make it evident that, in setting apart this area, "as a great national park and pleasure gound for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," no injury has been done to other interests. The land did not need to be purchased, but simply withdrawn from "settlement, occupancy or sale," and hence, by timely action, a great public benefit was secured, which in a few years, would have been impracticable, or at least attainable only with great difficulty. The time is not distant, in the opinion of Congressional committees, when this region will be the place of "resort for all classes of people from all portions of the globe."

The Northern Pacific Railroad, now rapidly advancing toward completion, will render the park easily accessible, and, this once accomplished, the marvels of this strange domain will tempt the curious in great numbers to visit it. As a place of resort for invalids, the Yellowstone Valley, on account of this pure and exhilerating atmosphere, is believed to be unexcelled by any portion of the globe; and, if this anticipation prove true, there will be additional reason to be gratified at the wise forethought which secured it for public uses forever. The Congressional enactment which creates the park, simply provides for its control and management. "It shall," says the act, "be under the exclusive control of the Secretary of the Interior, whose duty it shall be, as soon as practicable, to make and publish such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary or proper for the care and management of the same. Such regulations shall provide for the preservation, from injury or spoliation, of all timber, mineral deposits, natural curiosities, or wonders, within said park. The secretary may, in his discretion, grant leases for building purposes, for terms not exceeding ten years, of small parcels of ground, at such places in said park as shall require the erection of buildings for the accommodation of visitors; all of the proceeds of said leases to be extended under his direction in the management of the same, and the construction of roads and bridle-paths therein."

The foregoing extracts are taken from the Picturesque America, and from the Geological Reports of the Territories by Prof. F. V. HAYDEN, U. S. Geologist.

Mr. W. M. Ward, of Cheyenne, has just returned from Chicago, with a portable saw-mill, which he purchased at a cost of five thousand dollars, and which he intends to have in operation in the Black Hills by the 1st of February, 1876. Merchants, representing nearly every branch of miners' supplies, are now preparing to get their stocks in the Hills by the 1st of May, so as to be ready for the great rush. This means business.

SYNOPSIS OF THE LAWS RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS, LIMITATION OF ACTIONS, AND RATES OF INTEREST IN WYOMING TERRITORY.

EXEMPTIONS.—Every householder, being at the head of a family, is entitled to a homestead not exceeding in value fifteen hundred dollars, exempt from execution or attachment for any debt, contract or civil obligation, while such homestead is actually occupied as such by the owner thereof, or his or her family. The homestead may consist of a house and lot, or lots, in any town or city, or a farm of not more than one hundred and sixty acres. The owner of a homestead may mortgage the same, but such mortgage shall not be binding against the wife of a married man who may be occupying the premises with him, unless she shall freely and voluntarily acknowledge and sign the same, and the officer taking such acknowledgement shall fully apprise her of her rights, and of the effect of signing such mortgage.

Besides the homestead above mentioned, the wearing apparel of every person is exempt from judicial or ministerial process; also the following property, when owned by any person being the head of a family and residing with the same, to-wit: The family bible, pictures and school books, a lot in any cemetery or burial ground, furniture, bedding, provisions, and such other articles as the debtor may select, not to exceed in all the value of five hundred dollars, to be ascertained by the appraisement of three disinterested householders; *Provided*, that no personal property of any person about to remove or abscond from the Territory shall be exempt. The tools, team and implements or stock in trade of a mechanic, miner, or other person, and used and kept for the purpose of carrying on his trade or business, is exempt to a value not exceeding three hundred dollars; also the library, instruments, or implements of any professional man, not to exceed in value three hundred dollars. The person claiming exemption must in all cases be a *bona fide* resident of the Territory.

LIMITATION OF ACTIONS.—Civil actions can be only brought within the following periods, after the cause of action shall have accrued:

1. An action for the recovery of bonds, tenements and hereditaments, within twenty-one years.

2. An action of forcible entry and detainer, within two years.

3. An action upon a speciality, or any agreement, or contract, or promise in writing, within fifteen years.

4. An action upon a contract not in writing, within six years.

5. An action for trespass upon real property or for taking, detaining, or injuring personal property, including actions for the specific recovery of personal property within four years.

6. An action for libel, slander, assault and battery, malicious prosecution, or false imprisonment, within one year.

7. An action upon the official bond or undertaking of an executor, administrator, guardian, sheriff, or other officer, or upon the bond or undertaking given in attachment, injunctions, arrest, or any cause whatever, required by statutes, within ten years.

8. An action for any cause not before enumerated, within ten

years. If any person entitled to bring any of the foregoing actions—except an action for the recovery of real property, and except a penalty or forfeiture—be at the time the cause of action accrues, within the age of twenty-one years, a married woman, insane, or imprisoned, the action may be brought within the times above limited, after such disability shall have been removed. If, when the cause of action accrues against a person, he be out of the Territory, or shall have absconded, or concealed himself, the period limited for the commencement of the action shall not begin to run until he comes into the Territory, or while he is absconded or concealed. If, after the cause of action accrues, he depart or conceal himself, the time of such absence or concealment shall not be computed as any part of the period within which the action must be brought. Where the cause of action has arisen in another State or Territory, between non-residents of this Territory, and by the laws of the State or Territory where the cause of action arose, an action cannot be maintained thereon by reason of lapse of time, no action can be maintained thereon in this Territory. In any case founded on contract, part payment of principal or interest or an acknowledgement of existing debt, liability or claim in writing signed by the party to be charged, takes the case out of the statute, and an action may be brought within the times limited, after such part payment or acknowledgement.

INTEREST.—Any rate of interest may be agreed upon in writing, but in the absence of express contract, all monies, claims, or judgments, draw interest at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum; unsettled accounts draw interests after thirty days from date of the last item.

And here we wish to call especial attention to the absence of a usury law in our Territory, and give a few reasons why we are proud of it:

Labor, which works for wages, and capital, which works for profit, should be free to offer their services anywhere and everywhere and get the utmost possible pay for them. There is no statute anywhere which limits the wages of labor; and there should be no statute anywhere which limits the profits of capital.

All usury laws are a violation of political economy. Some of our States have already repealed them and others will soon follow the example. Particularly new States and Territories should leave money free to ask and obtain all it can for the use of itself within their limits. This would attract capital and make competition among money-lenders, which would undoubtedly keep the rates of interest reasonable and at the same time furnish the great lever necessary to the development of the resources of any new country. Just as a Legislature fixing the maximum wages for all kinds of labor would deter laborers from settling within such jurisdiction, so will a legal restriction upon the profits of capital deter capitalists from seeking investments in such Territories, and their growth and development is necessarily retarded.

WHO ARE THE THIEVES?

It has long been the custom of our Eastern neighbors to continually stigmatize the Pioneers of the West as "worthless adventurers," "thieves," and "men who are unfit for society in the East, and who have been driven therefrom," and that the pioneer generally lives by intruding upon the rights of the "noble red man.' Swindling him, robbing and murdering him, and that we are unworthy of sympathy and protection; and it appears to be the opinion of a large majority that this great western country belongs to the Indian, and that we have no right to encroach thereon. Now, why will not this class of misanthropists trace back the history of our country and see the time when each and every State of this great nation stood exactly in the same position that Wyoming stands today, with regard to this Indian title, and see this "noble red man" in his glorious indolence, too lazy to till the soil; too worthless to attempt to develop the resources of a great country, and too treacherous to live at peace with those who would; and then go a little farther with us in the investigation of this "God-given" title. First; in the language of Prof. Denton, the renowned Geologist:

"What stores of wealth in unfound mines,
The rich old Earth contains,
Of iron, silver, lead and gold,
What piles within her veins,"

"While still with bounteous harvests swell
Our Mother's undrawn breast,
Of sweetest fruit of corn and oil,
To make each poor man blest."

"What rocks to make his palace walls!
What cedars for its beams!
Our paupers might as wealthy be
As misers in their dreams."

"What woods uncut! what fields unplowed!
The laborer is God's heir.
Who steal his proud inheritance;
Who are the theives and where?"

"Who lock up Nature's boundless wealth,
Nor heed the needy's cry,
They are man's greatest enemies,
And *they* or *we* must die."

We positively know that the controlling portion of the population of Wyoming Territory to-day are true and loyal Americans—not loyal simply in a partizan sense, but *men* and *women* proud of their nationality, proud of their national institutions, history, and spirit, and eager to guard their national reputation and honor. They do not desire that the national treasuries be exhausted in the development of their resources. But they *do* ask and have a right to demand that their character, aims and inevitable destiny be known, felt and appreciated. Let it be understood that pioneers and frontiersmen have the same tastes, affections and passions as other men. That they are not necessarily nor in fact less cultivated, ruder or more uncouth. That often the noblest emotions of the soul, flaming up in the hearts of fathers, brothers, husbands and sons, have led them to seek alone the vaguely comprehended wilderness of the West to carve out a fortune that should minister to the blessing of the loved and left. Let it be remembered, too, that brave mothers and loving wives have followed husbands and fathers, leaving homes of luxury, braving the dangers and enduring the hardships of early emigration, forgetting or never regretting the luxuries forsaken and indulgences foregone, but with their sweet ministrations of unceasing tender attentions, strewing flowers in paths that would else be barren and unlovely; soothing the perturbed spirit, encouraging the faint and weary by the matchless splendor of their own peculiar, unfaltering heroism: making home charming, even in the wilderness; and daring to grapple with the maelstrom of evil and sin that whirls man away in its pernicious current. Let us, at least, if not adequately, yet emphatically, evince our appreciation of the sacrifice they have made, and the bliss they have conferred and own—woman's sacrifice, woman's friendship, and woman's love, these three, the brightest gems in the crown of humanity!

That a scalping knife sprinkling the palatial walls of New York or Philadelphia is no more horrible to imagine or endure, than the blood-drops of our own innocents upon the unhewn logs and earthy floor of a Western cabin. That the true pioneer has been wont to find at his door, the wily, loathsome, treacherous savage, knowing that, like a serpent, he might, within a day, turn and sting the fostering hand that fed him. This is no imaginary picture, but the true *history* of the "noble red man" from the date of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers down to the present time.

We have here in Wyoming a vast amount of our domain teeming with gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, coal and precious stones, rich in manufacturing facilities, agricultural and pastural capacity, peopled only by these vagabond pets of the misanthropist,

> "Who lock up Nature's boundless wealth,
> Who will not toil nor try,
> They are our greatest enemies,
> And they or we must die."

It is a principle set forth in the Declaration of American Independence that all men are endowed with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and the true patriot feels that his government should see at all times that these rights are guaranteed unto him. And if there is any class of the American people who have a supreme right to demand the protection of the strong arm of the government, it is the pioneer, who bears her banners into the vaguely comprehended wilderness of the West, and there with a true spirit of genius, courage and enterprise, seeks to develop the great resources which are to replenish the treasuries and sustain the general interests of the whole nation.

The greatness of a nation depends upon the magnitude and variety of her resources. The mineral resources of the United States are principally within the range of the Rocky Mountains, comprising a vast area of our domain, and certainly the most valuable portion. One vastly peculiar and exceptional capacity of this region is the precious metals therein contained, as gold, silver, etc. Too great importance cannot be attached to the development of this resource; not only as characterizing and effecting the wealth of this particular region, but also on account of the national necessity of home production of these precious metals, which ever have been and must continue to be fixed standards of valuation. In the financial crisis which followed the Mexican war, our people were deeply involved, and gold alone would satisfy the clamorings of our foreign creditors. The gold harvest of California was gathered in and by it alone a great crash was prevented.

The gold and silver produced by California, Nevada, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Colorado and Wyoming has done more to keep up our national credit since the Great Rebellion than the yield of any one resource of this nation.

Here in Wyoming, has been planted the germ of a great State, still in its infancy, but healthy and strong, and containing all the elements essential to growth and expansion. Our population is yet sparse, and our resources only partially developed. Our destiny is in the future; but the "Star of Empire" hangs in the zenith, and its golden rays illuminate a more beautiful panorama than can be spread by any State or Territory in the United States. This may appear at first, strong language, but you find it endorsed by the Congress of the United States, who have set apart a National Park, fifty miles square, and in Wyoming Territory, containing the most beautiful scenery as well as the most wonderful phenomena of Nature found on earth. Yet, with all the beauties of our scenery, the vastness and richness of our resources, we lack that security of life, liberty and property which is supposed to be guaranteed to every American citizen.

In April, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, a treaty was made by the United States government with the Sioux nation. By its terms, (Art. II,) a permanent reservation for the Indians was located east of the one hundred and fourth degree of longitude, (dividing line between Wyoming and Dakota,) and north of the north line of the State of Nebraska. The eastern boundary of this permanent Indian reservation, was the low water mark on the eastern bank of the Missouri River, and the northern limit of the reservation was fixed at the fifty-sixth parallel of north latitude. Every part of this reservation is in the Territory of Dakota. To this reservation, the Indians bound themselves to remove, and in terms did "relinquish all claims or right in or to any portion of the United States or Territories, except such as is embraced within the limits aforesaid, and except as hereinafter provided."

By the eleventh article of said treaty, the Indians "reserve the right to hunt on any lands north of the North Platte River, and on the Republican Fork of the Smoky Hill River, *so long as the buffalo may range thereon, in such numbers as may justify the chase.*"

By the sixteenth article of that treaty, "the United States hereby agrees and stipulates that the country north of the North Platte river, and east of the summit of the Big Horn Mountains, shall be held and considered to be unceded Indian Territory; and also stipulates and agrees that no white person or persons shall be permitted to settle upon or occupy any portion of the same; or, without the consent of the Indians first had and obtained, to pass through the same; and it is further agreed by the United States, that within ninety days after the conclusion of peace with all the bands of the Sioux nation, the military posts now established in the Territory, in this article named, shall be abandoned, and that the road leading to them and by them to the settlements in Montana shall be closed."

This treaty was ratified by the United States Senate and proclaimed by the President on the 24th day of February, 1869. The Indians have paid but little attention to its provisions, and have violated it time and again with impunity. They have not removed, and *will not remove* to the permanent reservation described in the treaty. At least we understand they so unhesitatingly declare. They desire to remain where they are, in the northwestern corner of the State of Nebraska.

Our object in publishing these prominent features of the treaty, is to apprise all that the government considers the provisions of this treaty in full force and binding upon it. There is little doubt that a modification of the terms of this treaty will be made, and the exclusion of white settlers from that portion of Wyoming, north of the North Platte River, will no longer be enforced. The buffaloes do not range there any more, and the reasons for its remaining a hunting ground for the Indians no longer exists. The Indians admit this, and are willing to cede or sell it to the government. This they will do in a short time, if their present feelings do not undergo a change.

The most valuable portion of the Black Hills lies west of the permanent Indian reservation in this Territory. We should be sorry to see any thing done now, by any parties, that might prejudice the good prospect we have of obtaining from the Indians a full surrender of all claims to every portion of Wyoming Territory, east of the Big Horn Mountains, and north of the North Platte River.

The Indians have time and time again violated the terms of the treaty with impunity. Every year, (we might with propriety add, every month too,) since the formation of the treaty—except the part that provides them with clothing and supplies from the government. This part they live up to like men. They have not gone upon the reservation marked out for them in the treaty, and are now living and located within the limits of the sovereign State of Nebraska. If the whites invade the Sioux reservation proper, in Southwestern Dakota, they will be trespassers, and will be there in violation of the terms of the Sioux treaty. The violation of it by white men will not be justified because the Indians have not observed its terms. The parties to the treaty are the Government and the Indians. So long as the government itself has not seen proper to declare the treaty violated—although it has been hundreds of times violated by the Indians—its citizens will not be permitted to do so, and treat it as null and void. There need be no misconception on this point, because it is evident that whether it will enforce the provisions of the treaty against the Indians or not, the Government proposes to enforce them against white men. Whether this is justice alike to whites and Indians, it is not necessary to discuss; but we may safely assert that there are but few white persons in the Western States and Territories who think it is. But despite whatever advice we may give to the whites upon this subject, it may safely be predicted that the United States troops will have to be kept pretty busy next summer if miners are kept off the Sioux reservation, unless, indeed, the government changes its policy.

There are gold mines in the Black Hills! That is definitely settled and known. About one half of these hills are on the Sioux reservation; the other half are on the unceded Indian lands in Wyoming and off the Sioux reservation. Gold diggings exist in this half of the hills as well as in the other.

Now, there are the Panther Mountains, west of the Black Hills, in Wyoming, and the Big Horn Mountains and the Powder River Black Hills; and in these as well as in the Cheyenne River Black Hills, *gold is known to exist.* The Indians are willing to give up to the Government for a consideration, all claim to the country included within the limits of the "unceded lands," in Wyoming. Here would be a fine field, and a remunerative one, too, for the restless, energetic and venturesome miners, and other persons who are now excited with the gold fever. The government can throw open Wyoming to them with the consent of the Indians, and conflict with the Indians and military be thus avoided. The country can be readily reached from Cheyenne, Laramie City, Medicine Bow and Rawlins, and no part of the reservation invaded to reach it. It can also be reached from Montana via the Yellowstone, and will satisfy the demand of these restless people for years to come, for prospecting and mining purposes. Besides, it will open to settlement a country that will furnish homes for thousands upon thousands of permanent settlers, in the various avocations of western life. Towns and cities will spring up in different parts of the Territory now excluded from prospecting and settlement, and the Sioux reservation will be respected. Throw open to miners and and settlers the country now unocupied by the Indians in Wyoming, and the Sioux reservation will not be invaded; at least we think not. Give the hardy, enterprising and usually law-abiding miner a chance to hunt his fortune once more, and all will be well. From what we hear and see, we predict that he will hunt any way, but would rather have the permission and consent of the government in the matter.

SUPPLEMENTAL.

The following supplement we deem advisable since the failure of the Government to treat with the Indians:—

It is generally supposed that wherever the American Flag floats there her citizens will find protection, but it has not been so in this case. Our government has heretofore placed a "dead line" around this large portion of our most valuable territory, and that too, in the very heart of her domain, and has used the Army to aid the Indians in guarding this country from invasion by the pioneer, and all on farcical excuse of maintaining inviolate the terms of this Treaty of 1868 with the Sioux, who have, as before stated, time and again violated every article of said Treaty, except that of drawing their rations and clothing, and as long as there was a hope of an amicable settlement of this matter by a new treaty, all was well and good; but since this hope is lost, it is well known that there exists no law in the United States fixing any punishment, or even making it a crime for entering, exploring or settling any portion of Wyomisg Territory. There are now more than four hundred miners in the Black Hills, who will winter there, and before the Fourth of July, 1876, we candidly expect to see this number swelled to one hundred thousand, when all the Government can or will do, will be to legalize the settlement, and the trouble will be over. We are honestly convinced that if Congress does not provide for the settlement of the Black Hills Powder River and Big Horn countries this winter, that the sturdy miners will rush in there by thousands in the spring, and will very soon solve this perplexing Indian problem, and why not? Is not the Government "of the people," and, is not "the voice of the people the voice of God?" Let the Indians be put upon the same footing as other citizens. Let them understand that they must either earn a livelihood by work or starve. Let them know that theft, rapine and murder are crimes punishable by imprisonment and death, no matter by whom committed. Give those who are willing to lead a civilized life an opportuuity to take their first lessons at a reservation under the protection and care of the Government; and let all those who choose to roam about the country for the purpose of plundering from those who earn their bread "by the sweat of their brow," be treated like white men, addicted to similar habits.

LATER.

President Grant's last Message, contains the following:—

"The discovery of Gold in the Black Hills, a portion of the Sioux reservation, has had the effect to induce a large emigration of miners to that point. Thus far the effort to protect the treaty rights of the Indians of that section has been successful, but the next year will certainly witness a large increase of such emigration. The negotiations for the relinquishment of the gold lands having failed, it will be necessary for Congress to adopt some measures to relieve the embarrassment growing out of the causes named. The Secretary of the Interior suggests that the supplies now appropriated for the sustenance of that people, being no longer obligatory under the treaty of 1868, but simply a gratuity, may be issued or withheld at his discretion."

IMPORTANT INTERVIEW.

From the Omaha Herald, Jan. 9, 1876.

Captain Edwin Pollock, of the 9th Infantry, arrived in this city a few days ago, from Fort Laramie, which point he reached from the Black Hills, in the latter part of November. A *Herald* reporter called on Captain Pollock at the Grand Central last evening, and held the following conversation with him:

Reporter—Captain I wish you would tell me something about the Black Hills. The subject is interesting you know.

Captain Pollock—Anything, sir, that I know on the subject I will tell you with pleasure. I went out there last July, in command of of three companies of cavalry and nine of infantry for the purpose of expelling the miners from the hills who were in there in contravention of the treaty with the Indians, myself and command stayed there until late in November.

Reporter—What do you think of the gold prospect?

Captain Pollock—I think it is very good. There is no doubt but that there is plenty of gold in the Black Hills to pay for mining, and the probabilities are that the deposits in some places are exceedingly rich.

Reporter—Did you make any investigations yourself?

Captain Pollock—I washed a few pans, but only found "color." The truth is, I didn't know anything about mining.

Reporter—What localities in the hills do you think show the best prospects for gold?

Captain Pollock—Along Spring, Castle, Rapid, Bear, White and Iron Creeks, gold seems to be most plentiful, but it shows along all the creeks in that country.

Reporter—Which route do you think best to go to the Hills?

Captain Pollock—The Cheyenne route by all means·

Reporter—Why?

Captain Pollock—Because the road is better—there is a better supply of water, and the crossing of the Platte is perfectly safe and easy, both in low water when it is forded and in high water when it is ferried. By the Sidney route, the Platte is very wide and difficult to ford, and it is fearful to ferry. Though that route is shorter.

Reporter—What ought a man to take with him going to the Hills?

Captain Pollock—A pick, shovel and pan, and grub, arms and ammunition. For an individual, a pack-mule outfit is the best, then he can go wherever he chooses without any trouble. Only the crudest kind of mining has been done there yet, and as the gold is in the earth, the pick, shovel and pan will probably be the only machinery that will be needed there.

Reporter—How many miners are in the Hills now do you think?

Captain Pollock—There were about 400 when we left Laramie, a few days ago, but we met fifteen or twenty wagons between Laramie and Cheyenne, as we came over the other day, and I think there will be a great rush to the Hills in the spring. People are going out with saw mills, restaurant fixings, and all sorts of goods needed or wanted by miners, except whisky—that they dare not take, as under the the law they would be severely punished. All of these people going out there could be put out, and that would be all; but if they were to be caught taking whisky out, they would get fits for it.

Reporter—Is there a town in the Hills yet?

Captain Pollock—I named my camp "Camp Collins," but since that the place has been laid out for a town and named Custer City.

Reporter—What do the Indians seem to think of this rush to the Hills?

Captain Pollock—They don't like it of course. Not that they want the country for their own use, but because they want Uncle Sam to pay them for it. They have a superstition about the Black Hills on account of the fearful storms of thunder and lightning that prevail there. They think that the Great Spirit lives there, and in the language of John Hay, they are not going to go "fooling around the throne."

THE STAGE ROUTES.

Mr. T. L. Kimball, general passenger and ticket agent of the Union Pacific Railroad, informs us that Gilmer & Salisbury areabout putting on a stage line from Cheyenne to the Hills. The stages are now on the way from Corinne to Cheyenne. G. W. Homan, Jr., now in Chicago, writes that he will put his stage line on the same route early in April. This will make four stage lines running from Cheyenne to the Black Hills.

FUTURE OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

What inspired hand shall trace upon the historic walls of the Capitol the future of this great Western Land? Methinks the obscuring veil of future centuries rolls back from the mountains and reveals what lies beyond. The grand old snow-crowned range is there as erst, and the streams roll down the mountain canons, but the arid dust of the plains is gone; forests of green trees wave in the breeze; vines droop with their purple clusters; meadows, lawns and slopes mirror the culturing hand! Domes, towers and minarets point up from every valley, and the busy hum is heard on every side. The mountain slopes are terraced and castled. The mountains themselves are inwrought with a net-work of penetration, whence treasures of silver and gold have been gathered for ages. Locomotives thunder on o'er level ways thousands of feet beneath the mountain summits, and emerge at vast cities in the valleys between the ranges. Old men gather the the children at evening, and tell them strange stories of the almost fabulous long ago, when a tramp over the dry plains was a work of weary months, and the prospector wandered with pick and pan over pathless heights in search of coveted gold. And the morning sun shall rise as erst, not on barren rocks and arid plains, but on the last realm of westward moving empire, now become the populous heart of the enlightened world!

ERRATA.

On page 15, in the top line, 1767 should read 1867.

On page 31, sixth line from the bottom, 2,200 square miles should read 22,000 square miles.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PAGE.

MAP OF WYOMING AND ITS BOUNDARIES.

INTRODUCTION 3

PREFACE 5

SCENERY 7

This article is a description of a trip across the Great Plains from the Missouri River to the Rocky Mountains, and of the varied, grand and beautiful scenery within the mountains.

CHEYENNE as a Health Resort 8

Giving altitude, climate, prevailing diseases, the class of invalids who *would be* benefitted, and those who *would not*, by a residence there: and HOW to profit by, and enjoy "Nature's healing remedies in her own laboratory."

LOCATION of the City of Cheyenne 9

Showing its advantages as THE great trade center at the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains, with tables of distances and rates of fare from Chicago, St. Louis, and Omaha; also tables of distances from Cheyenne to the BLACK HILLS, giving the names of ranches, water courses, etc., ou two routes, stage fare, etc., etc.

FIRST Settlement 14

Showing the wonderful rapidity with which Cheyenne sprang into great noteriety—first business, etc.

EVENTS in the Early History of Cheyenne 18

Replete with incidents of the "days which tried men's souls"—the desperate struggle between the true citizens and the roughs. City organizations, provisional and chartered. Murderers, garroters, thieves, etc. Vigilance Committees and Courts.

CHEYENNE in 1875 27

Is the Capital of Wyoming and the county seat of Laramie County. Public Buildings—Public Libraries—Growth of the City and present business.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS 30

A Complete but Brief History of the Schools of Cheyenne from its organization to the present time.

CHURCHES 33

Giving Dates of Organization, Building, Consecration, etc., with the Present Value of Church Property and the Present Condition of each Church in the City.

FRATERNAL and Benevolent Societies 34

A. F. & A. M.—I. O. O. F.—K. of P.—I. C. R. C., and I. O. G. T.

OFFICIAL Directory—Territorial, County and City 36

THE Press of Cheyenne 38

Agricultural Resources of Eastern and Northern Wyoming.............. 39
Embracing the Districts of the North Platte, Wind River or Big Horn, Powder River, and Black Hills.

Grazing and Stock Growing.. 52
A Brief, General History of this Business, its Extent, Profits, etc., accompanied by a Table giving the Names, Location and kind of Stock of the Leading Stock Growers in Laramie County, Wyoming.

Mines and Mining.. 56
Orography, Hydrography, Geology—The Immense Placer Beds—**Where** the **Gold** is and **how** to Get it—Latest Improvements in Placer Mining Machinery—Estimates showing what kind of Earth it will Pay to Mine—Official Reports of Army Officers, Scientists, etc.

Biographical Sketch of Father De Smet, the celebrated Jesuit Missionary among the Indians.. 65
His Gold Story.

The Black Hills Country.. 67
Real and Established Facts Concerning the Gold Fields—Prof. Jenny's Explorations by Authority of the Government, and Reports from Reliable and well-known Miners—The Latest Developments to Dec. 20, 1875.

Coal, Petroleum and Iron.. 78
Giving the Extent and Stratification of the Coal Measure in Wyoming—Mines already Developed—Wonderful thickness of Coal Veins—Inexhaustible Supply of Coal and its Quality—Petroleum Shale—Immense Mountains of it—Works for Extracting the Oil—Oil Wells now in Operation—A Great Oil Region—Wonderful Iron Mines—Their Development one of the Greatest Interests of a Great Country.

Reliable news from the Black Hills Dec. 31, 1875........................ 82
Outfits, Prices, etc.

Surveyor General's Report, 1875.. 85
The Extracts from this Report cover all the Leading interests of Wyoming Territory.

Our Great National Park.. 96
This Chapter is written from the Official Reports of Prof. F. V. Hayden, United States Geologist, and Lieut. Barlow, United States Army, and is authoritatively true.

Laws of Wyoming..113
A Synopsis of the Laws Relating to Exemptions, Limitatation of Actions and Rates of Interest.

Who are the Thieves..116
A Chapter viewing the Indian Question from a *practical* standpoint—Contrasting the Character of the True Pioneer with that of the "noble Red Man."

Interview with Capt. Ed. Pollock, U. S. A., who commanded the troops in the Black Hills in 1875..124

Future of the Rocky Mountains..126

ADDENDA.

MARSHAL HOLLINS' LETTER.

The following letter from ex-Marshal Hollins, late of Omaha, is graphically written, and will be read with interest:

BLACK HILLS, December 18, 1876.

To the Editor of the Omaha Herald—

THE SITUATION.

At present, prudence warns me from naming our location, however, I am housed and located for the winter; that is to say, I have a hole in the ground, high up in the mountains, which overlook the clouds, with six months bread-stuff and plenty of fixed ammunition, also game in abundance, viz: Elk, Deer and Bear, close by. There is no snow upon the hills, I am writing this upon the bottom of a gold pan in my shirt sleeves, before a pine log fire built out of doors.

Before I proceed further, let me take an optical survey of the country. What a prospect rushes upon my sight, how vast and various; what an inexhaustible treasure is here, which lately charmed me from the home circle and the parterre—we are surrounded with an unornamented forest of tall pine, which stands ready to furnish timber for the sluice and lumber for the cottage. The camp is located on a small creek of clear water in which can be seen the minnow as it turns its silvery sides boastingly to our view. The creek meanders for ten miles or more through the ruggedest mountains, and waters the roots of many a wild flower, plum tree, cherry tree and the fruitless quaking-asp by its crystal current.

GOLD.

O powerful word, the incentive of man for gold must be vanquished to permit the golden treasures to remain in the bowels of mother earth. The American pioneer, who breaks the weeds for civilization, proposes to break open these vast gold fields which is to give employment to thousands, and bring joy to the threshold of many a family who rely on those divine succors which are so solemnly stipulated, so faithfully promised. We are not in the district surveyed and reported by Prof. Jenney. Holy writ tells us "silver, copper and lead runs in leads, gold wherever it may be found." This will apply to

professional gentlemen whose craft and calling confines them to geological rules. We have found far better diggings than have yet been reported and plenty of it. The principal mines are on the western slope of the Black Hills, the gold coarse and less stripping to pay dirt. The hazard, vicissitudes and privations are great. However the legions who will pour into these hills when the truth is known cannot be intimidated by the proud, lousey, lazy, cunning and insolent savage warrior, or destroyed either by the seductions of fraud or the assaults of violence.

SERENADES.

I have been honored every evening, by a serenade, since my occupation of this terrestrial abode. However, I do not reciprocate or return thanks for the melancholy notes from the throats of innumerable large grey wolves and little coyotes. The mountain lion joins in the howl with such energy you imagine the monster serenader at your side. Not content with allowing a few moments for such recreation they devote whole nights to us. You may imagine our minds are stretched on the tender hooks of anxious suspense, and agitated by the fiercest extremes of hope and fear. Such is not the case as our hairs have grown grey years ago, listening to the coy minstrels.

TITLE.

Are we trespassers? The United States have maintaied the European doctrine that the native tribes of America are not independent nations, nor owners of the territory they occupied at its discovery.

The United States vs. Ragsdale, 1 Hemp. 497.

The U. S. vs. Rogers, 1 Hemp. 450.

The title of the Indians to the land on the American continent is subordinate to the absolute ultimate title acquired by discovery,

Johnson vs. McIntosh, 8 Wheat. 543.

A tribe of North American Indians is neither a state nor a nation, in the political or international sense of the terms.

Roche vs. Washington, 19 Ind. 53.

Admitting, to avoid discussion, the ratification by the Senate, 16th day of February, 1869, and the proclamation of A. Johnson, 24th of February, 1869, meets the spirit and comes within the purview of the Constitution, nevertheless, the title to the lands of Indian reservations is, in the Goverernmet or grantee, the use, occupation and possession alone belong to the Indians as wards of the Government.

The Government, under treaty stipulations, has not ceded to the Indians, in the treaty of 1868, any mineral lands, or the right to dispossess the miner or discoverer. Again, the presumption arises that the masses, or popular sentiment, of the Indians is opposed to and does resist the treaty stipulations of 1868, by continually harassing the frontier settlements, by marauding and predatory excursions in settlements.

HOSTILITIES.

In passing through the frontier settlements, most of the ranchmen were on the alert, anticipating an outbreak from the Sioux. They report the Indians well armed with the latest improved arms, furnished them by the government and friends. They further represent that the Indians have been saving and carrying amunition into the interior of the Indian country.

THESE WILD TRIBES

who refuse government aid in rations must eat, and the reservation Indians trade with them, and supply them with arms and amunition, for since the white man forged the iron arrow point, and stimulated the Indian to draw the bow in order to obtain the price offered for the furred robe of the buffalo, the food, raiment and shelter of the red man, has become scarce, and the buffalo now live in the far-off valleys in small frightened and broken bands, the Indians must follow or perish. Again, the wild or hostile Indian cannot leave his hunting grounds in large force to give battle as they have no commissary or or other subsistence than game unless furnished by the government. Nevertheless the emigration to the Hills in the spring must look for surprise attacks from small parties between the Platte river and the Hills. Once in the Hills I apprehend no danger from the Indians. The Sioux have a holy horror for the Hills. Their superstitions will not permit them to expose themselves to the wrath or power of the Great Spirit. The lightning plays fearful pranks over these hills, attracted by the mineral; and the mountain lions, which are very numerous, are bad medicine to the Indian. As near as I can learn there are several hundred men in the Hills.

Yours truly, WM. G. HOLLINS.

HO! FOR THE BLACK HILLS!

THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD

Via OMAHA, is

226	Miles the	Shortest Line	From	Chicago to	Cheyenne.
159	"	"	"	New York	"
135	"	"	"	Indianapolis	"
117	"	"	"	Cincinnati	"
25	"	"	"	St. Louis	"

Miners intending to visit the BLACK HILLS will SAVE TIME and MONEY, and AVOID DANGERS and HARDSHIPS, by taking this route.

Two Daily Trains (including Sundays) leave Omaha for the West; the Express running through in 24 hours to Cheyenne—within 182 miles of the Gold fields.

By taking the Union Pacific Line, the miner will reach the Hills *several weeks in advance* of the best time ever made by the Sioux City, Yankton, or any other route on the Upper Missouri River.

From Cheyenne the trip is made over good stage roads, and in comparative safety from hostile Indian tribes that infest the more northern routes.

Special Rates for organized parties can be obtained by calling on, or addressing

THOS. L. KIMBALL,

Gen'l Passenger and Ticket Agent U. P. R. R., Omaha, NEB.

J. C. ABNEY'S

STAGE AND FAST FREIGHT LINE

From Cheyenne, via. Fort Laramie,

TO THE

BLACK HILLS.

Carries the United States Mail to Fort Laramie, and crosses the North Platte at Fort Laramie over the

Government Iron Bridge.

Town Lots For Sale!

BY THE

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY.

Choice Business and Residence Lots

In the Towns of

CHEYENNE, LARAMIE CITY, AND SIDNEY,

On Very Favorable Terms.

For full information apply to Agents in the above Towns, or address,

O. F. DAVIS,
Land Commissioner,
Omaha, Nebraska.

Established Nov. 1867. Burned out Jan 11, 1870—July 4, 1875.

DAVID MILLER, WATCHMAKER,

—AND—

Manufacturing Jeweler,

17th Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Fine Watch and Jewelry Repairing. All goods and work warranted as represented.

B. HELLMAN,

CLOTHIER

AND

MERCHANT TAILOR.

AND DEALER IN

Gents'. Furnishing Goods, Hats and Caps,

Boots, Shoes, Etc., Etc.

Sixteenth Street, Cheyenne, Second Street, Laramie City,
WYOMING TERRITORY.

I. C. WHIPPLE. H. G. HAY.

WHIPPLE & HAY,

Dealers in

Groceries and Provisions,

BUTTER, EGGS, FRUITS, FLOUR, GRAIN, FEED,

TOBACCOS AND CIGARS,

At Wholesale and Retail.

AGENTS FOR

HAZARD POWDER COMPANY'S SPORTING AND MINING POWDER, FUSE, ETC., ETC.

And Dealers in

Ammunition of All Kinds, Shot, Etc., Etc.

Ferguson Street, Bet. 16th and 17th, Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory.

Special Inducements offered to Parties Outfitting for the Black Hills.

KEY CITY HOUSE,

Three Doors West of McDaniel's new Theatre.

CHEYENNE, W. T.

F. M. DARLING, Prop'r.

Table on Restaurant Plan. Good Boarding by the Day or Week. First Class Fare at lowest prices. Open at all hours, day and night. New House, new furniture, and everything in elegant style. Clean and well-furnished rooms for all who desire pleasant lodgings. Give ns a trial·

H. GARBANATI,

Attorney and Counselor at Law.

Will Practice in all the Courts of the Territory.

Evanston, Wyoming.

WYOMING ARMORY.

Awarded the First Premium Silver Medal at the Colorado Industrial Exposition in 1873, for the best Colorado made Gun.

FREUND & BROTHER,

Manufacturers, Importers and Dealers in

Guns, Pistols, Ammunition, Gun Materials, Cutlery and Fishing Tackle. Sportmen's Articles of all Kinds.

Remodeling, Adjusting and Sighting Guns made a Specialty. Everything in the Sporting Line of goods constantly on hand and for sale at the Lowest Prices.

Eddy Street, Cheyenne, W. T.

☞ REMEMBER, FREUD & BROTHER cannot be UNDERSOLD ☜

W. H. MASTERS,

PHOTOGRAPHER,

CHEYENNE, WYOMING.

LIFE SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS made from LIFE or COPIED from OLD PICTURES of Any Kind.

CARD PHOTOS in the BEST STYLES known to the Art. Ferrotypes, Gems, and everything in the line of PICTURES and FRAMES.

As I have patented the best enlarging instrument in use, my facilities for enlarging are not surpassed East or West. The best Artists employed for re-touching negatives or finishing prints in Ink or Color.

G. W. COREY, M. D.,

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,

CHEYENNE, WYOMING.

HENRY H. ELLIS,

Bakery, Manufacturer of Confectionery,

Mineral and Soda Water, Etc.,

Eddy Street, between Sixteenth and Seventeeth Streets,

CHEYENNE, WYOMING.

REVOLUTION STORE,

Cheyenne, Wyoming.

SMITH, GUITERMAN & HARRINGTON,

Dealers in

Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Gents' Furnishing Goods, Hats,

Caps, Trunks, Valises, Blankets, Etc., Etc,,

Corner of Eddy and Sixteenth Streets.

S. BON,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

Boots, and Shoes, Leather and Findings.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF MINER'S BOOTS ON HAND.

South Side of Sixteenth, between Ferguson and Eddy Streets,

Cheyenne, Wyoming.

TERRY & HUNTER,

LIVERY, FEED, AND SALE STABLE.

General Outfitting Headquarters for

Stock Men, Tourist, Prospectors, and Pleasure Seekers.

We have a New Brick Stable, the Largest and most completely furnished of any in the Territory.

We keep constantly on hand Horses, Mules, and Pack Animals, Pack Saddles, Aparahoes, Etc., Etc.

Please call and see us, six doors west of McDaniel's new Theatre,

Sixteenth Street,

Cheyenne, - - Wyoming.

ESTABLISHED 1869.

The Pioneer Auction House of Wyoming!

J. K. JEFFREY,

General Auction and Commission. Merchandise, Horses, Wagons, &c., Bought and Sold.

Constantly on hand a large assortment of Tents, Wagon-sheets, Outfitting Goods, Clothing, Etc., Etc.

Seventeenth-st., Cheyenne, Wyoming.

W. W. CORLETT,
Attorney-at-Law.

L. C. STEVENS,
Notary Public.

CORLETT & STEVENS,

REAL ESTATE DEALERS and BROKERS,

Cheyenne, Wyoming.

All kinds of Real Estate and Real Estate Securities, bought, sold, and negotiated.
Have a complete Numerical Abstract of Cheyenne Lot Titles.

L. C. STEVENS,
Agent Town Lot Department, U. P. R. R. Co.,
Cheyenne, Wyoming.

H. C. KELLER. W. L. KUYKENDALL.

KELLER & KUYKENDALL,

Wholesale and Retail Grocers,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

—AND—

DEALERS in COUNTRY PRODUCE

17th Street, Between Eddy and Ferguson,

CHEYENNE, - - WYOMING.

HELPHENSTINE & DURBIN,

DEALERS IN

Fresh and Salt Meats,

"CALIFORNIA MEAT MARKET."

16th Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

WM. H. HOLLIDAY,

Wholesale & Retail Dealer in Native and Eastern

LUMBER!

Doors, Windows, Blinds, Mouldings, Pickets, Shingles,

Building Paper,

Tarred Felt, Lath, Lime, Plastering Hair, Plaster Paris, Cement, Lead' Oil and Putty, and Rawlin's Metalic Paint.

YARDS at CHEYENNE & LARAMIE.

Keeps constantly on hand a large stock of Native Flooring, Fencing and Long Joists.

—SOLE AGENTS FOR—

FISH BROS' & CO.'S WAGONS,

For Wyoming Territory. Made at Racine, Wis.

UNDERWOOD & McGREGOR,
Enterprise Bakery
—DEALERS IN—
GROCERIES!
Provisions, Butter, Eggs, Canned Fruit, Graham, Rye and Wheat Bread, Pies, Cakes, Candies, &c.,
CORNER 17TH AND EDDY STREETS, } **Cheyenne, Wyoming.**

ADDOMS & GLOVER,
Wholesale and Retail
DRUGGISTS,
CORNER SIXTEENTH AND EDDY STREETS, } **Cheyenne, Wyoming.**

THE CHEYENNE LEADER.
The Pioneer Newspaper of Wyoming!

Devoted to the Development of the Creat West—Now in its Ninth Year of Pulication.

Daily Edition,..$10,00 per annum!
Wlekly " (mammoth size, 56 colums,)...................... 2,50 "

☞ The Leader Steam Book and Job Printing Estahlishment is the most complete in the West.

Cheyenne Daily News.

WM. M. BENTON, Proprietor.

The News Office is prepared to do all kinds of
BOOK & JOB PRINTING
At the Shortest Notice and Most Reasonable Rates.
The Daily News, $10,00 per year, postage prepaid, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

WESTERN HOTEL,

Near the Depot.

CHAS. KIMME, Prop'r.

Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Thit Hotel is near the Union Pacific Depot, and beautifully located for the convenience of passengers going East or West on the neon trains.

☞ The tables are furnished with the best the market affords. ☜

EBERT CLARKE,

TAXIDERMIST.

SPECIMENS OF NATURAL HISTORY.

Birds, Quadrupeds, Fish, Reptiles, Skeletons and Skins, Mounted with Skill and durable workmanship; warranted to endure in any climate any length of time, or prepared to ship for subsequent mounting.

These specimens are procured from the Black Hills.

I also have facilities for collecting any specimen the Hills may contain.

POST OFFICE BOX 139.

E. CLARKE,

CHEYENNE, WYOMING.

Joslin & Park,

JEWELERS,

Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Salt Lake City, Utah.

Fine Native Gold Jewelry of Every Description.

MARKS & MYERS,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

DRY & FANCY GOODS,

Clothing, Gents' Furnishing Goods,

Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Trunks, Blankets, &c.

Cor. Eddy & 17th-Sts.

CHEYENNE, - - WYOMING.

HERMAN HAAS,

Dealer in

WAGONS, MOWING MACHINES, IRON,

Hard Wood of All Kinds, Ox Yokes, Bows, Chains, &c.

Wagons and Buggies Repaired in the Best Style.

Freighters and Miners Outfitting Supplies.

CHEYENNE, WYOMING.

E. P. JOHNSON,

Attorney and Counselor at Law,

Cheyenne, Wyoming.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY.

J. R. BOWMAN, M. D.,

Homeopathic Physician and Surgeon.

Office:--Over Converse & Warren's.
(1st door west of the Inter-Ocean Hotel.)

Cheyenne, - - Wyoming.

L. MURRIN,

Wholesale Dealer in

WINES, LIQUORS & CIGARS.

Agent for the

Denver Brewing Company's Lager Beer.

Seventeenth Street, - - Cheyenne.

Fred. Landau,

Dealer in

Fresh and Salt Meats, Fish and Game,

Vegetables, Etc.

Seventeenth Street, between Eddy and Ferguson Streets.

CHEYENNE, - - - WYOMING.

PEASE & TAYLOR,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

GROCERIES and GREEN FRUITS,

Vegetables, Ranch Butter, Teas, Sugars, Spices,

AND CANNED GOODS.

Cheyenne, - - Wyoming.

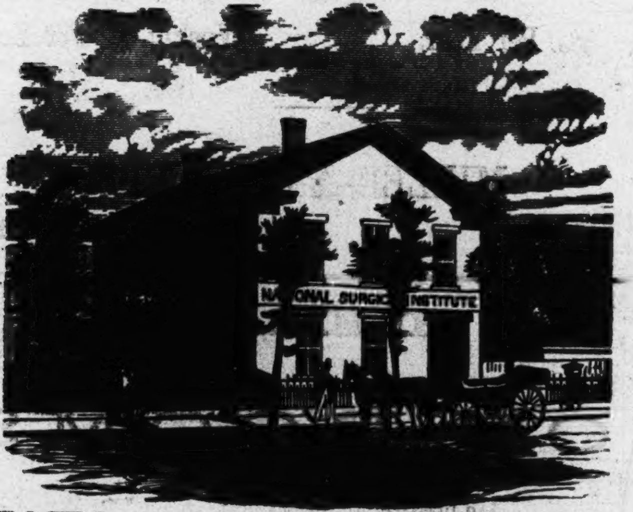
BEAN & HOTTEL,

Wholesale Dealers in

Flour, Feed and Grain,

Warehouse, Cor. 19th and Read Streets, } **Cheyenne, Wyoming.**

National Surgical Institute



OMAHA, - - NEBRASKA.

For treatment of

CHRONIC DISEASES,

Hare Lip, Cross Eyes, Club Foot,

Club Hand, Stiff and weak Joints, Hip Joint Diseases, Spinal Diseases, Paralysis, Wry Neck, Hernia, Piles, Diseases of Eye and Ear, Diseases of the Womb, and all classes of Surgery, Physical Deformities, Etc.

S. D. MERCER, M. D.,
Surgeon in Charge.

THE

OMAHA HERALD,

DAILY AND WEEKLY.

Daily, $10 Per Year. Weekly, $2 Per Year.

MILLER & RICHARDSON,
Proprietors.

THE HERALD

JOB ROOMS

Are prepared to do anything in the

PRINTING LINE,

From the largest book to a lady's visiting card.

Show and Programme Work Done on Short Notice.

HENRY GIBSON, Manager.

40194